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Richard A. Marshack, the duly appointed Chapter 11 Trustee ("Trustee") for the estate of The Litigation Practice Group, P.C. ("Debtor" or "LPG") hereby respectfully submits this opposition ("Opposition") to the entirety of the administrative claim filed as Motion Notice of Motion and Motion of Greyson Law Center PC for an Order Granting Allowance and Payment of Administrative Claim, Pursuant to 11 USC 503(b)(1), Dk. No. 674 ("Motion") and submits the declarations of D. Edward Hays ("Hays Declaration"), Jane Dearwester ("Dearwester Declaration") and Shadae Clarke ("Clarke Declaration"). **Summary of Argument**

Greyson seeks an administrative expense claim in the amount of \$5,434,633.00. One portion of the claim is for \$300,633.00 based on an inapplicable interpretation of fundamental fairness rule whereby Debtor's estate should pay for consequences of Trustee's field agents performing a Court ordered lockout. Remaining portion of the claim is for \$5,134,000.00 based on the assertion that Debtor should pay Greyson \$2,000 per file for 2,567 serviced client files for a supposed benefit to Debtor's estate.

However, other than seeking to re-litigate the legitimacy of the lockout order and preliminary 16 injunction issued by this Court, Greyson's motion does not offer any legal basis or evidentiary support for allowance of an administrative expense flowing from consequences of the lockout. 18 | Further, Greyson seeks to be paid upon a contract that Greyson has not produced, thus failing to meet its burden of proof. As described, this contract would have Debtor pay for a premeditated fraud scheme wherein Debtor would have to pay a premium for the privilege of being systematically robbed of its two assets—its client files and its network of attorneys. In essence, Greyson (and its stakeholders) are looking to get paid for committing fraud. There is absolutely no discernible benefit to Debtor's estate in the Greyson scheme. As such, Greyson's motion for administrative expense should be denied in its entirety.

Further, because Trustee initiated an adversary proceeding against Greyson seeking to recover Debtor's property through avoidance of fraudulent transfers, the entirety of Greyson's

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administrative claim should be disallowed pursuant to §502(d) until full recovery of Debtor's property from Greyson.

2. Procedural Background

Pre-petition, Debtor was a law firm that provided consumer debt resolution services servicing more than 50,000 customers across the United States. In 2022, Debtor's annual revenue exceeded \$150 million

On March 20, 2023 ("Petition Date"), Debtor filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 11 of

Title 11 of the United States Code, initiating bankruptcy Case No. 8:23-bk-10571-SC in the United

States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Santa Ana Division ("Bankruptcy

Case"). Prior to bankruptcy, Debtor fraudulently transferred all its assets and clients. As of the

petition date, Debtor had virtually no assets or clients.

On May 8, 2023, Richard A. Marshack was appointed as the Chapter 11 Trustee of the Debtor's estate. *See* Dk. No. 65.

On June 8, 2023, Trustee filed an adversary case against numerous defendants, including
Greyson Law Center PC ("Greyson") and Phoenix Law Group, Inc. ("Phoenix"), seeking, among
other things, to avoid and recover Debtor's fraudulent transfers ("Adversary Case"). *See* Adv. Case
No. 8:23-ap-01046-SC.

On June 15, 2023, Trustee filed an amended complaint in the Adversary Case, modifying the allegations with regard to Greyson. *See* Adv. Case No. 8:23-ap-01046-SC Dk. No. 62.

On June 18, 2023, Han Trinh ("Han"), Phuong (aka Jayde) Trinh ("Jayde"), Greyson, and Scott Eadie filed a response to the amended complaint in the Adversary Case. *See* Adv. Case No. 8:23-ap-01046-SC Dk. No. 89.

On October 16, 2023, the Court entered an Order setting the Administrative Claims Bar Date as November 21, 2023. *See* Dk. No. 577.

On November 17, 2023, Greyson filed the Motion as Dk. No. 676, seeking a \$5,434,633.00 administrative claim, asserting that its attorneys handled 2,567 lawsuits in the post-petition administrative period.

3. Pertinent Factual Background²

Since its inception, Debtor's main assets were consumer client files, also known as Legal Service Agreements ("LSAs") and Debtor's network of attorneys throughout the country ("Local Counsel"). The main stakeholders controlling the Debtor were Tony Diab ("Diab"), Dan March ("March"), Han Trinh ("Han"), and Jayde Trinh ("Jayde").

To facilitate its growth, Debtor obtained financing by granting liens or purporting to sell its future receivables. After defaulting on its loans, Debtor was sued by its secured creditors in Fall 2022. Dearwester Dec., Exs. 25 and 26.

By January 2023, stakeholders at LPG decided to stiff the creditors by essentially "killing" the Debtor by fraudulently transferring all of its assets and then filing bankruptcy. They called this "the hard part." *See*, Declaration of Alex Rubin Dec., Ex. 23, filed on April 11, 2024, as Dk. No. 1099 ("Rubin Dec.").

To accomplish this scheme, the insiders decided on a two-step process: first, they would transfer consumer client files to non-Debtor entities and second, they would force new employment contracts upon its Local Counsel. When there would be no client files left behind, and Local Counsel would be employed by the new non-Debtor entities, the insiders would file bankruptcy under the guise of reorganization (which was impossible after fraudulently transferring all of its assets), and move on to their "new ventures." *See*, Rubin Dec., Ex. 39

Some of the non-Debtor entities to which stakeholders transferred Debtor's assets were Oakstone Law (Oakstone) and Phoenix Law (Phoenix). Another was Movant, Greyson.

Unfortunately for the insiders, most of Debtor's clients rightfully became concerned when began receiving notices in January-February 2023 that they were now purportedly represented by the fraudulent transferee law firms. *See*, Dearwester Dec., Ex 11. No clients signed substitutions consenting to these transfers. *See*, Dearwester Dec., Ex. 13. Also, the insiders failed to alert their

² In Pertinent Factual Background, Trustee incorporates by reference Trustee's Second Amended Complaint filed in the adversary proceeding, *Marshack v. Diab*, et al, case no 8:23-ap-01046

2023, this Court granted the TRO and authorized a lockout of the Phoenix office as a prejudgment remedy for the fraud. In compliance with the Court authorization, Trustee performed a lockout at Greyson's offices on June 2, 2023. After obtaining control of the Phoenix office, Trustee discovered several computers which contained evidence of the fraud.

In the course of Trustee's investigation of Greyson, Trustee discovered that post-petition, Local Counsel essentially continued working on the consumer client files under the supposed banner of Greyson.³ Trustee reached out to Local Counsel to understand what work they were performing and how they received the assignments. Here, Trustee uncovered another fraudulent surprise. Greyson's master plan was thuggishly straightforward: Greyson intended to charge entities like 10 Phoenix a "rental fee" for the use of "Greyson attorneys," even though they were the same attorneys that had worked for Debtor. Clarke Dec., Ex. 7.

After June 27, 2023, per stipulation with Phoenix, Trustee avoided and recovered Debtor's fraudulent transfer of client files. Trustee also obtained authorization to compensate some of 14 Debtor's former employees to continue servicing client files and prepare the files to be properly sold with notice to the clients. A few months after the Court-approved sale, Greyson filed this Motion, 16 looking to collect its "rental fee" from Debtor's estate under the guise of a legitimate administrative 17 expense that was supposedly beneficial to the Debtor. Incapable of accepting the fact that Debtor's property was lawfully avoided and recovered, Greyson has taken the curious, but inaccurate position that Trustee or Trustee's counsel was somehow "running" Phoenix. As such, Greyson attempts to shift its inane rental fee arrangement from Phoenix to Debtor's estate. But, the order avoiding the fraudulent transfers to Phoenix made clear that the bankruptcy estate was recovering the assets but was not being subjected to Phoenix's debts.

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players remained.

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attorney as having monumental legal significance, the truth remains that Greyson was a brainchild of

Debtor's insiders. One, Greyson shutting down on Friday and the next Greyson sprouting up over the weekend is a corporate shell game; there was no meaningful corporate restructuring and the same

While the legal formalities of Greyson are still unclear and are heavily argued by Greyson's

In its Motion, Greyson has neither provided a copy of its alleged contract nor has it identified by name any of the attorneys for whose work they are seeking recovery of \$5,134,000.00. Separate from this Motion, Trustee has negotiated with various of the Local Counsel to reimburse them for their out-of-pocket expenses and to provide them administrative claims for work actually performed for the clients after service of the Court's TRO through the date the sale to MLG closed. Unlike these Local Counsel, Greyson failed to provide any benefit to the estate.

4. Legal Argument

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Standard for Allowance Under 11 U.S.C §503(b) and Burden of Α. Proof

Claims for "the actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the estate, including wages, salaries, or commissions for services rendered after the commencement of the case" may be entitled to administrative priority. 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(A); see Abercrombie v. Hayden Corp. (In 13 | re Abercrombie), 139 F.3d 755, 756 (9th Cir. 1998). "Requests for allowance of administrative expenses under § 503(b) must be strictly construed as they 'reduce the funds available for creditors and other claimants." In re Gilman, 646 B.R. 277, 288 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 2022, Kaufman, J.). "To 16 be deemed an administrative expense, the claim must have arisen from a transaction with the debtor 17 in possession, and directly and substantially benefited the estate." *Boeing North America, Inc. v.* 18 | Ybarra (In re Ybarra), 424 F.3d 1018, 1025 (9th Cir. 2005). "In order to keep administrative costs to the estate at a minimum, 'the actual, necessary costs and expenses of preserving the estate...' are construed narrowly." Microsoft Corp. v. DAK Industries (In re DAK Industries), 66 F.3d 1091, 1094 (9th Cir. 1995). "The burden of proving an administrative expense claim is on the claimant." *Id.* Claimants must prove entitlement to their administrative expense by a preponderance of the evidence. In re Blanchard, 547 B.R. 347, 352 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 2016, Clarkson, J.). "[A]dministrative claims lack presumptive validity." *Id*.

В. Application of Fundamental Fairness Rule to the facts of the lockout would not permit allowance of an administrative claim

Greyson argues that it is entitled to an administrative expense claim of \$300,633.00,

representing the fees lost by Greyson after Trustee's seizure of computers and client files pursuant to the lockout order. Greyson argues that Trustee's field agents were negligent, converted Greyson's property, and that this action resulted in unfair competition against Greyson. Greyson's relies in its argument on the "fundamental fairness rule," yet misses in its application and purpose.

The Court in Reading Co. v. Brown held that "damages resulting from the negligence of a receiver acting within the scope of his authority as a receiver give rise to 'actual and necessary costs' of a Chapter XI arrangement." 391 U.S. at 485. In *Brown*, on November 16, 1962, a debtor filed a petition for bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Act⁴. Id. at 473. That same day, a receiver was appointed to conduct the debtor's business. *Id.* On January 1, 1963, the debtor's only 10 significant asset, an eight-story industrial structure, was destroyed by a fire which spread to adjoining premises and destroyed the real and personal property of Reading Company. Id. Reading and other claimants who suffered losses resulting from the fire filed administrative expense claims in the bankruptcy based on the asserted negligence of the receiver. *Id.*

The rule's name, "fundamental fairness," is derived from the Court saying that an "fairness to all persons having claims against an insolvent" is an "important, and here decisive, statutory objective." *Id.* at 477.

The Court in Kadjevich v. Kadjevich (In re Kadjevich), explained that "tort claims based on a trustee's post-petition negligence are granted...priority status so that the victims of a reorganizing business' torts will be compensated ahead of the creditors who sought reorganization." 220 F.3d 1016, 1020 (9th Cir. 2000) (referencing the *Reading* Court's assertion that it "seems more natural and just" that those "injured by the operation of the business during an arrangement should ...recover ahead of [] those for whose benefit the business is carried on." 391 U.S. at 482.).

In Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts v. Megafoods Stores (In re Megafoods Stores), 163 24 | F.3d 1063 (9th Cir. 1998), the Court found that "[d]ebtors are liable due to violation of its duties as

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There does not appear to be any argument within the 9th Circuit that *Reading* survived the enactment of the Bankruptcy Code. See In re Ybarra, 424 F.3d 1018, 1025 n.10 (9th Cir. 2005); In re Kadjevich, 220 F.3d 1016, 1019 (9th Cir. 2000); In re Megafoods Stores, Inc., 163 F.3d 1063, 1071 (9th Cir. 1998).

debtor-in-possession under 28 U.S.C. §§ 959(b) and 960" under the Reading exception, for debtor's

failure to pay Texas sales taxes.

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In Kipperman v. IRS, United States (In re 800Ideas.com, Inc.), the court explained that in Reading, "the Court's priority decision was largely based on equitable principles and a fairness rationale." 496 B.R. 165, 177 (BAP 9th Cir. 2013). Although the holding in *Reading* was initially read as narrow, In re Megafoods Stores expanded the doctrine by "holding that postpetition interest on unremitted state and local sales taxes collected prepetition were entitled to administrative priority when interest charges resulted from debtors' mismanagement of their estates, i.e. failure to comply with their duties under 28 U.S.C. §§ 959(b) and 960." Id. at 178 (citing In re Megafoods Stores, 163 F.3d at 1072).

The Court in *In re Um*, determined that "[i]n order to be accorded administrative priority under *Reading*, the acts must arise from the operation of the debtor's business. 2015 Bankr. LEXIS 621, at * 20 (Bankr. W. Wa. Feb. 27, 2015).

The underlying thread in these holdings is that Trustees of bankruptcy estates were held 15 liable for "postpetition tortious or active wrongdoing" *In re 800Ideas.com*, 496 B.R. at 178. For the 16 Reading exception to §503(b) "benefit to the estate" standard to apply, there are three factors that should be considered: (1) active wrongdoing by the trustee; (2) arising from the operation of the 18 debtor's business; and (3) fairness. Here, there was no wrongful conduct.

On May 25, 2023, Trustee filed his emergency motion for TRO ("Emergency Motion"). On May 26, 2023, the Court entered an order ordering, among other things, turnover of client files to the Trustee, preventing Greyson from accessing any bank accounts, and locking Greyson out of the subject premises ("Emergency Order"). The Emergency Motion was not filed as part of operating the Debtor's business, nor was the Debtor's business operating. Instead, all of Debtor's assets had been fraudulently transferred and Trustee was seeking their avoidance and recovery. Finally, there is no fairness principle that would be violated by refusing to allow a fraudulent transferee to recover, as an administrative expense claim, for any damages that it may have incurred by being unable to benefit from the fraudulently transferred assets. To the contrary, allowing Greyson—whose

stakeholders were formerly managing the Debtor, then proceeded to defraud the Debtor, and are now intending to engage in the same business as the Debtor—to recover ahead of those injured by the Debtor. Allowing Greyson an administrative claim to the detriment of the consumer clients, would violate fairness principles. Moreover, as in the rest of the claim, Greyson fails to meet its burden of proof, including showing how it calculates its supposed damages. Greyson's attempt to relitigate the lockout order in its administrative expense motion is also inappropriate. The \$300,633.00 amount of Greyson's claim should be denied.

Greyson completely fails its burden of proof to show benefit to C. **Debtor's estate**

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In its Motion, Greyson haphazardly estimates that it is owed "at least" \$5,134,000.00 for work of "Greyson attorneys" but fails to provide even a single name to aid in Trustee's investigation. This appears to be yet another deliberate attempt by Greyson to obstruct Trustee's investigation. It is 13 ||inconceivable that Han and Trinh did not know every single name of an attorney that is listed in the 14 Motion. Two weeks ago, Han admitted in her deposition taken by the Trustee that David Orr, Esq., ("Orr") was romantically involved with her sister, Jayde. A week ago, Orr's attorney confirmed that 16 Orr's fees are included in Greyson's Motion. Mamlyuk Dec., Ex. 34. The fact that Han and Jayde withheld Orr's name, among others, and instead forced Trustee to expend considerable resources to 18 connect the dots is inexcusable.

Greyson's administrative claim is by far the biggest filed in this bankruptcy case. Greyson simply approximates the number of files fraudulently transferred and multiplied that number by \$2,000. Further, to this day, Greyson has not been able to provide a copy of the contract that allegedly exists between Phoenix and Greyson, the very contract upon which Greyson bases its claim. Greyson simply equates Phoenix to Debtor and calls it a day. There is no serious attempt by Greyson to justify its claim. It is possible that this administrative expense claim of \$5+ million was always a part of Debtor's insiders' fraudulent plan. In other words, what better way for the insiders to finance a new venture like Greyson than to saddle Debtor's estate with a \$5 million administrative claim for the exorbitant fees that Debtor never paid.

The Entirety of Greyson's claim is subject to disallowance pursuant D. to §502(d)

Section 502(d) provides that a court "shall disallow any claim of any entity" whose transfer 12 | is avoidable under certain subsections. 11 U.S.C. §502(d) (subsections include §§ 544 and 548). Trustee has initiated an adversary complaint against Greyson, seeking to avoid and recover 14 fraudulent transfers made from the Debtor to Greyson, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 544 and 548, 15 Marshack v. Diab, et al, case no 8:23-ap-01046. Section 502(d) applies to administrative claims. 16 MicroAge, Inc. v. Viewsonic Corp. (In re MicroAge, Inc.), 291 B.R. 503, 505 (BAP 9th Cir. 2002). "A creditor cannot reasonably expect to provoke those portions of the bankruptcy code that allow it to recover on its claims and yet avoid the legal effect of other sections that do not work in its favor." Tucker Plastics v. Pay 'N Pak Stores (In re PNP Holdings Corp.), 184 B.R. 805, 807 (BAP 9th Cir. 1995). The entirety of Greyson's administrative claim must be disallowed until Greyson's receipt and retention of fraudulent transfers from the Debtor is avoided and all of Debtor's property is rightfully returned to the estate. 23 / / / ///

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1 5. Conclusion For the foregoing reasons, Trustee respectfully requests that the Court deny the Motion and 3 disallow Greyson's Motion for allowance of administrative claim in its entirety. DATED: April 11, 2024 MARSHACK HAYS WOOD LLP /s/ D. Edward Hays By: D. EDWARD HAYS ALINA MAMLYUK Attorneys for Chapter 11 Trustee, RICHARD A. MARSHACK

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DECLARATION OF D. EDWARD HAYS

- I, D. Edward Hays, declare and state as follows:
 - 1. I am an individual over 18 years of age and competent to make this Declaration.
 - 2. If called upon to do so, I could and would competently testify as to the facts set forth
 - 3. The facts set forth below are true of my personal knowledge.
 - 4. I am an attorney at law duly admitted to practice before this Court and all courts of the State of California.
 - 5. I am a partner with the law firm of Marshack Hays Wood LLP, attorneys of record for Richard A. Marshack, the duly appointed Chapter 11 Trustee ("Trustee") for the estate of The Litigation Practice Group, P.C. ("Debtor" or "LPG").
 - 6. I reviewed the docket in this case prior to execution of this Declaration to refresh my memory as to the dates on which particular documents were filed.
 - 7. I make this declaration in support of the Trustee's Opposition to the Motion of Greyson Law Center for an Order Granting Allowance and Payment of Administrative Claim, Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 503(b)(1)(A), Dk. No. 676 ("Motion"). Capitalized terms not defined in this declaration shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Opposition.
 - 8. On March 20, 2023 ("Petition Date"), Debtor filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 11 of Title of the United States Code, initiating bankruptcy Case No. 8:23-bk-10571-SC in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Santa Ana Division ("Bankruptcy Case"). Prior to bankruptcy, Debtor fraudulently transferred all its assets and clients. As of the petition date, Debtor had virtually no assets or clients.
 - 9. On May 8, 2023, Richard A. Marshack was appointed as the Chapter 11 Trustee of the Debtor's estate. *See* Dk. No. 65.
 - 10. On June 8, 2023, Trustee filed an adversary case against numerous defendants, including Greyson Law Center PC ("Greyson") and Phoenix Law Group, Inc. ("Phoenix"), seeking, among other things, to avoid and recover Debtor's fraudulent transfers ("Adversary Case"). *See* Adv. Case No. 8:23-ap-01046-SC.

 On June 15, 2023, Trustee filed an amended complaint in the Adversary Case, modifying the allegations with regard to Greyson. See Adv. Case No. 8:23-ap-01046-SC Dk. No. 62 In investigating Greyson's claim, Trustee obtained evidence of Debtor's emails between the insiders within Debtor's company: Tony Diab, Dan March, Han Trinh and Phuong 								
12. In investigating Greyson's claim, Trustee obtained evidence of Debtor's emails								
between the insiders within Debtor's company: Tony Diab, Dan March, Han Trinh and Phuong								
("Jayde") Trinh that show the extensive scheme of fraud that the stakeholders were engaged in prior								
to and post-petition.								
13. A compendium of these emails, authenticated by Alex Rubin, has been filed on Apri								
11, 2024, as Dk. No. 1099.								
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on								
April 11, 2024.								
/s/ D. Edward Hays								
D. EDWARD HAYS								

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- I, Alina Mamlyuk, declare and state as follows:
- 3 1. I am an individual over 18 years of age and competent to make this Declaration.
 - 2. If called upon to do so, I could and would competently testify as to the facts set forth in this Declaration.
 - 3. The facts set forth below are true of my personal knowledge.
 - 4. I am an attorney at law duly admitted to practice before this Court and all courts of the State of California.
- 5. I am of counsel with the law firm of Marshack Hays Wood LLP, attorneys of record 10 for Richard A. Marshack, the duly appointed Chapter 11 Trustee ("Trustee") for the estate of The Litigation Practice Group, P.C. ("Debtor" or "LPG").
 - 6. I reviewed the docket in this case prior to execution of this Declaration to refresh my memory as to the dates on which particular documents were filed.
 - 7. I make this declaration in support of the Trustee's Opposition to Motion of Greyson for Allowance of Administrative Expense Claim [Dk. 676]. Capitalized terms not defined in this declaration shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Opposition.
- 8. In the course of my investigation of administrative claim motions filed in this case, I 18 contacted Israel Orozco who filed a request for payment of administrative expenses based on his servicing Debtor's client files as an attorney. [Dk. 862]
- 9. In exchanging emails with him, I asked Israel Orozco to forward me documentation 21 || regarding his post-petition employment with Greyson.
 - 10. On April 1, 2024, Israel Orozco emailed me his employment contract with Greyson.
- 11. A true and correct copy of the Greyson contract for Israel Orozco is attached here as 24 Exhibit 33.
 - 12. In the course of my investigation of David Orr, Esq. ("Orr's) claim [Dk. 697], Orr's counsel confirmed to me that David Orr, Esq. was "in fact the 'Florida attorney' referenced in Greyson's motion."

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Declaration of Shadae A. Clarke

- I, Shadae A. Clarke, say and declare as follows:
- 1. I am an individual over 18 years of age and competent to make this Declaration.
- 2. If called upon to do so, I could and would competently testify as to the facts set forth in this Declaration.
 - 3. The facts set forth below are true of my personal knowledge.
- 4. I am an attorney at law duly admitted to practice before all courts of the State of Georgia.
 - 5. I am the sole member of the law firm The Clarke Law Firm, LLC.
- 6. On November 28, 2022, I began working for The Litigation Practice Group ("LPG").
- 7. On or before February 17, 2023, Han Trinh ("Han") and Jayde Trinh ("Trinh") called a meeting via Microsoft Teams. On the call Han told us that LPG clients were being transferred to several different entities. Phoenix Law, PC ("Phoenix") and Oakstone Law Group PC ("Oakstone") were two of the entities named. Han also said that we needed to finish out the LPG cases previously assigned. Jayde told us that our last paycheck from LPG would be disbursed the following week. Han stated that we would be receiving employment contracts from a new entity named Oakstone, where Jayde would be the managing attorney.
- 8. On February 19, 2023, I received an employment offer from Oakstone Law Group PC ("Oakstone") from Oakstone Admin from the email address admin@oakstone.com.
- 9. On February 20, 2023, I executed the employment offer. A true and correct copy of the signed employment agreement is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 1.
- 10. On or before March 24, 2023, Han and Jayde called a meeting via Microsoft Teams. In the meeting, Han said that they (Jayde and Han) were starting a new entity called Greyson Law Center PC ("Greyson") and that we would be receiving new employment contracts for Greyson. The attorneys were told that if any of our clients wanted to keep us as

their attorney, we should bring them to Greyson.

- 11. On March 24, 2023, I received an employment offer from Greyson Law Center PC ("Greyson") dated for March 21, 2023, from Mary, Chief of Staff, from the email address Onboarding@greysonpc.com. On March 26, 2023, I executed the employment offer. A true and correct copy of the signed employment agreement is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 2.
- 12. On April 6, 2023, Han Trinh ("Han") sent an e-mail to Greyson attorneys after a meeting that had taken place prior to that day. At that meeting, Han told us that if we had any clients that wanted to keep us as their attorney and leave Phoenix Law, PC ("Phoenix"), Consumer Law Group, PC, or Oakstone, that we should come to Greyson. The e-mail contained a referral form. A true and correct copy of the beginning of the e-mail is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 3. I am unable to access the full e-mail due to being locked out of Greyson's e-mail account but have accurately described the e-mail's contents.
- 13. On June 13, 2023, Doug Plazak ("Plazak") sent an email to Han and Scott Eadie ("Eadie") summarizing a phone call that he had with the Trustee of LPG's bankruptcy estate's ("Trustee") counsel, Christopher Celentino, discussing, among other things, Greyson attorneys working on LPG and Phoenix Law Group client files.
- 14. On June 14, 2023, Han replied to the email from Plazak stating, among other things, that ... "Greyson attorney network belongs to Jayde and I alone. They were W2 attorneys for LPG until February 2023. They never belong to anything Ty Carss [] did."
- 15. On June 14, 2023, I received screenshots via text message from Han showing the above-described e-mails from Han and Plazak. A true and correct copy of the screenshots sent to me of the email sent by Plazak to Han and Eadie are attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 4. A true and correct copy of the screenshots sent to me of the email sent by Han to Plazak are attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 5.
- 16. On June 15, 2023, I sent an e-mail to Ty Carss from my firm's e-mail address because Greyson's e-mail domain was down. I told him that I had a list of Phoenix Law PC

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Declaration.

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27 28 1. I am an individual over 18 years of age and competent to make this

I, Jane Dearwester, say and declare as follows:

- 2. If called upon to do so, I could and would competently testify as to the facts set forth in this Declaration.
 - 3. The facts set forth below are true of my personal knowledge.
- 4. I am an attorney at law duly admitted to practice before all courts of the State of North Carolina and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- 5. I was hired by The Litigation Practice Group ("LPG") in October 2021. A true and correct copy of the Employment Contract dated September 20, 2021 is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 9.
- 6. I was hired to set up and lead the LPG offices in North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. At the time, I was only licensed to practice law in North Carolina.
- 7. I was asked by Tony Diab ("Diab") to apply to the Kentucky and Tennessee State Bars for admission by comity. LPG paid all costs and fees associated with my application to be admitted to the State Bars for Kentucky and Tennessee.
- 8. Han Trinh ("Han") was the Director of Operations for LPG. Her responsibilities included handling management of LPG's staff and attorneys. She was referred to as "General Han" because she was somewhat feared by the employees of LPG. She had seemingly unlimited authority to manage the business of LPG and LPG's employees.
- 9. Phuong aka Jayde Trinh ("Jayde") was introduced to me as the Attorney Liaison. I understood her job was to support the local attorneys, including myself, and make sure that the attorneys had all of the tools needed to do our job.
- 10. Jayde also served as General Counsel of LPG, under Dan March ("March"). However, it was clear that Jayde was in charge of the attorneys across the country, as we rarely, if ever, had contact with March. I thought it was odd that such a young, newly licensed attorney had such a high level of responsibility within the firm. A true and correct copy of the

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- 11. Shortly after I was hired, I was flown out to California to visit LPG headquarters in Tustin, California. Jayde picked me up in a BMW i8 sports car from John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, California.
- 12. When she picked me up, she gave me the keys to the car and told me to have a fun weekend. She said that LPG bought the BMW i8 for her as a "perk" and that LPG had bought Diab a Mercedes Benz G-Wagon.
 - 13. Later during that trip, I saw Diab driving the Mercedes Benz G-Wagon.
- 14. Jayde helped me check in to a Marriott luxury vial in Newport Beach and I spent the weekend in Southern California.
- 15. While I was in town, I met with Han, Jayde, Diab, and March. I toured the LPG headquarters and met the employees at the Tustin office. At the time, there were hundreds of employees, covering three floors of office space in a large commercial building.
- 16. In December 2021, I, and attorneys from all over the country, were flown to California for an LPG Christmas party ("Christmas Party").
- 17. All of the other attorneys and I stayed at the Surf & Sand Resort in Laguna Beach, California. All expenses were covered by LPG. The other attorneys and I attended a big dinner with a "red carpet." LPG also hosted a staff party at Dave & Busters.
- 18. At the Christmas Party, LPG announced that Jayde had passed the California Bar
- 19. I thought this announcement to be odd because Jayde was previously listed as General Counsel for LPG which would mean Jayde was unlicensed when working as General Counsel.
- 20. Diab and March authorized the lease of an office space that was at least 3000 square feet, costing over \$8,000.00 per month, for myself and one other employee in North Carolina ("North Carolina Office").
- 21. Diab and March authorized over \$100,000.00 to furnish the North Carolina Office. The furniture and equipment purchased to furnish the North Carolina Office was paid

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- 22. In February 2023, my LPG clients began reaching out to me saying that they had received communications stating that their client file had been sold/transferred to Oakstone Law Group PC ("Oakstone"), Phoenix Law, PC ("Phoenix"), and Consumer Law Group, PC ("CLG"). A true and correct copy of a February 3, 2023 email to clients is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 11. A true and correct copy of March 2023 emails regarding the transfer of Phoenix Law clients without consent is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 12.
- 23. In response, I told my LPG clients that they could not be transferred without their consent.
- 24. When I, and others, brough this up to Jayde, Han, and Diab, they did not respond. A true and correct copy of emails are attached to my Declaration as Exhibits 13, 14 and 15.
- 25. On February 3, 2023, Jayde sent the attorneys a cryptic e-mail stating that Diab and March were "stepping away" from LPG and we were transitioning to Oakstone. A true and correct copy of the email is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 16.
- 26. Jayde and Han told the attorneys, plainly, that if we wanted to continue receiving a paycheck that we had to transition over to Oakstone by March 13, 2023. A true and correct copy of the emails are attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 17 and 18.
- 27. My LPG clients were particularly distressed by the transition to Oakstone and reported that their bank accounts were being debited multiple times, in the same month, by a combination of LPG, Oakstone, Phoenix, and CLG.
- 28. Han and Jayde told me, and other attorneys, that LPG was "rebranding" to get away from lawsuits that had been filed in California that dated back to when LPG was Coast Processing.
- 29. They said that Diab and March were personally implicated in those lawsuits and that it was necessary to change the name of the law firm to "save the brand."
- 30. Then, in a sudden about-face, we were told not to talk about LPG and Oakstone in the same sentence and that LPG and Oakstone are completely separate entities

that had nothing to do with each other.

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- 31. It is my understanding that Han and Jayde were directing the consumer file transfers away from Forth and Direct Pay Pro to a new customer relationship management system and a new proprietary data management software.
- 32. Han and Jayde said that the attorneys in each state were the most important commodity that LPG had and that whoever controlled and maintained relationships with the attorneys "held all the cards."
- 33. Han and Jayde admitted that they could not run the business without the attorneys in each state because the attorneys are the ones that are credentialed and have existing relationships with LPG clients.
- 34. Han and Jayde told the attorneys that they were there to protect us and were adamant about maintaining their relationship with us.
- 35. Han and Jayde ran LPG on the ground level. A true and correct copy of a January 2023 email re: division of responsibilities between Han and Jayde is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 19.
- 36. In early February 2023, LPG stopped paying its expenses: payroll started being missed and never got back on track, rent was stopped being paid, our phones were shut off, electricity was shut off multiple times at the North Carolina Office, and vendors stopped being paid. A true and correct copy of emails are attached to my Declaration as Exhibits 20, 21, 22, and 23.
- 37. Richard Meier ("Meier"), a trusted and respected colleague and an LPG attorney based out of the Tustin office California, resigned after LPG missed the first payroll in early February 2023.
 - 38. Meier's office was right next door to Jayde's in Tustin, California.
- 39. In February 2023, Meier called and texted me to encourage me to resign and "save my law license."
 - 40. Meier told me not to believe anything that Han and Jayde told me.
 - 41. Meier told me to go to PACER and look into the cases for LPG in the Central

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District of California. A true and correct copy of the March 10, 2023 email from Meier is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 24.

- 42. I logged into PACER and found the March Bein and NAZ II Holdings lawsuits. After I read through the dockets of these cases, I realized that LPG was creating shell companies and offloading client files so that they could keep charging the clients monthly fees. A true and correct copy of the March Bein lawsuit and the NAZ II Holdings lawsuits are attached to my Declaration as Exhibits 25 and 26.
- 43. I learned that Diab was formerly an attorney that had been disbarred in two states by reading through the dockets.
- 44. Meier told me that Diab paid for Han's wedding which had cost about \$300,000. He also said that Diab paid for Han and Jayde's luxurious lifestyle, which included sports cars, a high salary, private jets, and expensive trips to Las Vegas, Nevada for "marketing" purposes.
- 45. I was not paid my bonuses and the money I made from clients outside the typical LPG sales funnel.
- 46. I brought my own legal clients from my previous practice over to LPG and took on new clients on an hourly basis.
- 47. I was supposed to split these fees equally with LPG. I sent them the funds so that taxes would be deducted, but they never sent me back my half of the money.
- 48. I shared the information that I had received from Han and Jayde with three employment law and ethics attorneys. All of them told me to resign immediately to avoid being complicit in the scheme of fraud and to save my law license.
- 49. I resigned the next day, on March 10, 2023. A true and correct copy of my March 10, 2023 resignation letter addressed to Daniel S. March is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 27.
- 50. I reported the principals of LPG, Oakstone, Phoenix, and CLG to the State Bar of California, and the State Bar of North Carolina, as well as the Attorney General for California, the Attorney General for North Carolina, the Consumer Financial Protection

Bureau, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Senators in California, Senators in North

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Carolina, Congressional Representatives in California, and Congressional Representatives in

North Carolina.

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- 51. I notified the North Carolina State Bar that LPG was no longer able to conduct business in North Carolina after my departure because they no longer had a North Carolina licensed attorney on staff.
- 52. I was a member of a Facebook group for disgruntled LPG former clients. Within that Facebook group, many of those clients shared stories of LPG, Oakstone, and Phoenix unduly debiting their bank accounts and transferring their files without authorization.
- 53. A true and correct copy of a December 20, 2022 email from Diab about disgruntled vendors is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 28.
- 54. A true and correct copy of a December 9, 2022 email regarding credit cards declining in December 2022 is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 29.
- 55. A true and correct copy of the March 6, 2023 email from Jason J. Rebhun regarding further solicitation of LPG attorneys to go to other firms is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 30.
- 56. A true and correct copy of a screenshot of communication to attorneys from Han about vacation pay is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 31.
- A true and correct copy of the May 11, 2023 client's communication that they 57. were transferred from Oakstone to Phoenix on May 11. 2023, three days after appointment of Trustee is attached to my Declaration as Exhibit 32.
- On April 5, 2024, I spoke to one of the attorneys representing the Trustee in 58. LPG's bankruptcy matter.

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1 2 3	LPG's bankruptcy matter.							
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7	59. The exhibits attached to my Declaration were forwarded by me to Trustee's							
8	counsel on or about April 5, 2024 and represent true and correct copies of e-mails, documents,							
9	and screenshots that I saved from my employment with LPG.							
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EXHIBIT 1



+1858-330-3009

888 Prospect Street, Ste 200, La Jolla, CA 92037

support@oakstonepc.com

Shadae Clark Saclarke03@gmail.com February 18, 2023

Dear Ms. Clark

Congratulations! It is with great pleasure that Oakstone Law Group PC ("OLG") would like to offer full-time employment to you for the position of Associate Attorney. The terms and conditions of employment are outlined below. The Firm reserves the right to alter or rescind this offer at any time during the employment process. The following outlines the details of this offer.

1. Start Date

February 20, 2023 where and handler are young, managed and her where the description as

2. Compensation in to the being possible of the dispersitive daily decrease residues

You will be classified as an exempt employee with an annual salary of \$120,000.00 per year paid in accordance with Firm payroll practices. Employee agrees to maintain a license in good standing in Georgia.

The Employee agrees to represent all clients of OLG assigned to Employee who have active matters located in any jurisdiction in which Employee is admitted to practice law. The Employee may employ the assistance of appearance or coverage counsel at Employee's discretion to manage Employee's docket of cases, and OLG agrees to cover such cost on behalf of Employee.

The Employee will be provided office space convenient to their current residence. All bar dues and malpractice insurance will be covered by OLG. The Employee may also retain a legal administrative assistant or paralegal to assist in the management of Employee's docket of cases.

Annual Salary Increase. The Employee shall be eligible for salary increases annually of zero to three percent (0-3%). Such salary increase shall be based upon the overall performance of the Employee during the preceding twelve (12)-month period.

3. Benefits

- a. Enrollment. Should you choose to enroll, the benefits will be effective the first day of the month following your hire date. OLG offers a competitive benefit plan which includes the following:
 - i. Paid Time Off.

- You will be eligible to accrue three (3) weeks of Vacation and forty (40) hours of Sick
 Time per year. You will need to inform Human Resources prior to your Vacation.
- ii. Medical, Dental, and Vision Plan
- iii. 401(k) Plan and company-match (if eligibility requirements are met)
- iv. Paid Holidays

4. Duties

- a. Attorney-Employees are required to represent clients of OLG in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct governing the jurisdiction in which such legal representation is rendered.
- b. The Employee is not required to maintain records of hours except as required by any applicable rule of professional conduct.
- c. If any ethical conflict arises, Employee may decline a case assignment, but must promptly notify OLG of such denial and must assist OLG in good faith to find representation for such client.
- d. If Employee requires any support material to provide legal services in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct, Employee shall promptly notify OLG of the same and OLG agrees to comply with such requests in good faith and with the exercise of reasonable diligence.
- e. The Employee agrees to permit OLG to publish Employee's profile to its website, mobile application, and on any firm letterhead or correspondence.
- f. The Employee agrees to complete all required continuing legal education coursework and to comply with ethical standards expected of any officer of the court.
- g. The Employee agrees to serve as counsel for the Firm and its clients for all purposes in the jurisdiction(s) in which Employee is licensed.
- h. The Employee agrees to use OLG's customer relations management software.
- i. The Employee agrees to use their name and information on correspondence directed to OLG's clients in the state(s) in which the attorney is licensed.

5. Outside Activities

a. General. During the term of this Agreement you may not, without the prior written consent of the Firm, directly or indirectly as principal, agent, shareholder, partner, employee or otherwise engage in or be interested in any other business which will require your attendance or attention during the Firm's business hours or which is or may be contrary to the interest of, or in competition with, the Firm or which may require the use of confidential information of the Firm.

6. Confidentiality

- a. General Confidentiality. You shall not disclose or use either during or after your employment with the Firm any secret or confidential information, or information which in good faith and good conscience ought to be treated as confidential relating to the Firm, its employees, or its customers without the prior written consent of the Firm.
- b. Confidential information. Confidential information includes, but is not limited to, customer lists, supplier lists and lists of employees and contractors and information about the Firm's finances, business plans, proposals, technologies, and developments.
- c. Absenteeism and Illness. Punctual attendance is necessary. It is the responsibility of the Employee to inform OLG prior to your start of any absenteeism and illness. The Firm has the right to require you to supply proof of illness and fitness to return to work in the form of a doctor's certificate or other form satisfactory to the Firm.

7. At-Will Statement

- a. General At-Will. This letter constitutes the full commitments that have been extended to you. However, OLG does not guarantee employment for a specified length of time.
- b. Mutual Consent. Employment is at the mutual consent of each employee and OLG.
- c. Right to Terminate. Accordingly, both parties retain the right to terminate the employment relationship at-will with or without cause.
- d. Identification Documents and Other Paperwork. Upon employment, you will be asked to provide identification documents in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Reform Act of 1986 and complete the I-9 form within three days of employment. You will also be given additional paperwork necessary to complete your file.

If the terms and conditions stated above are acceptable to you, please indicate by signing below and returning to me via email. Please respond within two business days of the date on this correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact me at admin@oakstonepc.com.

We look forward to a favorable reply!				
Sincerely,				
Scott J. Eadie				
Managing Attorney				
			Ash a basms and son	nditions set forth in
I accept the above offer to be employed by Oak	stone Law (Froup and underst	and the terms and con	iditions set forth in
		104103		
	ated:	2610618		
Shadae Clarke				

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EXHIBIT 2



GREYSON LAW CENTER

Shadae Clark as a company to a description of a company of the com

Dear Ms. Clark,

Congratulations! It is with great pleasure that Greyson Law Center PC would like to offer full-time employment to you for the position of Associate Attorney. The terms and conditions of employment are outlined below. The Firm reserves the right to alter or rescind this offer at any time during the employment process. The following outlines the details of this offer.

1. Start Date

March 27, 2023

2. Compensation

You will be classified as an exempt employee with an annual salary of \$120,000.00 per year paid in accordance with Firm payroll practices. Employee agrees to maintain a license in good standing in Georgia.

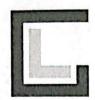
The Employee agrees to represent all clients of Greyson Law Center assigned to Employee who have active matters located in any jurisdiction in which Employee is admitted to practice law. The Employee may employ the assistance of appearance or coverage counsel at Employee's discretion to manage Employee's docket of cases, and Greyson Law Center agrees to cover such cost on behalf of Employee.

The Employee will be provided office space convenient to their current residence. All bar dues and malpractice insurance will be covered by Greyson Law Center. The Employee may also retain a legal administrative assistant or paralegal to assist in the management of Employee's docket of cases.

Annual Salary Increase. The Employee shall be eligible for salary increases annually of zero to three percent (0-3%). Such salary increase shall be based upon the overall performance of the Employee during the preceding twelve (12)-month period.

3. Benefits

a) Enrollment. Should you choose to enroll, the benefits will be effective the first day of the month following your hire date. Greyson Law Center offers a competitive benefit plan which includes the following:



GREYSON LAW CENTER

- I. Paid Time Off: You will be eligible to accrue three (3) weeks of Vacation and forty (40) hours of Sick Time per year. You will need to inform Human Resources prior to your Vacation.
 - II. Medical, Dental, and Vision Plan
- III. 401(k) Plan and company-match (if eligibility requirements are met)
- IV. Paid Holidays

4. Duties

- a) Attorney-Employees are required to represent clients of Greyson Law Center in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct governing the jurisdiction in which such legal representation is rendered.
- b) The Employee is not required to maintain records of hours except as required by any applicable rule of professional conduct.
- c) If any ethical conflict arises, Employee may decline a case assignment, but must promptly notify Greyson Law Center of such denial and must assist Greyson Law Center in good faith to find representation for such client.
 - d) If Employee requires any support material to provide legal services in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct, Employee shall promptly notify Greyson Law Center of the same and Greyson Law Center agrees to comply with such requests in good faith and with the exercise of reasonable diligence.
 - e) The Employee agrees to permit Greyson Law Center to publish Employee's profile to its website, mobile application, and on any firm letterhead or correspondence.
 - f) The Employee agrees to complete all required continuing legal education coursework and to comply with ethical standards expected of any officer of the court.
 - g) The Employee agrees to serve as counsel for the Firm and its clients for all purposes in the jurisdiction(s) in which Employee is licensed.
 - h) The Employee agrees to use Greyson Law Center's customer relations management software.
 - i) The Employee agrees to use their name and information on correspondence directed to Greyson Law Center's clients in the state(s) in which the attorney is licensed.

5. Outside Activities

a) General. During the term of this Agreement you may not, without the prior written consent of the Firm, directly or indirectly as principal, agent, shareholder, partner, employee or otherwise engage in or be interested in any other business which will require your attendance or attention during the Firm's business hours or which is or may be contrary to the interest of, or in competition with, the Firm or which may require the use of confidential information of the Firm.



GREYSON LAW CENTER

6. Confidentiality

- a) General Confidentiality. You shall not disclose or use either during or after your employment with the Firm any secret or confidential information, or information which in good faith and good conscience ought to be treated as confidential relating to the Firm, its employees, or its customers without the prior written consent of the Firm.
- b) Confidential information. Confidential information includes, but is not limited to, customer lists, supplier lists and lists of employees and contractors and information about the Firm's finances, business plans, proposals, technologies, and developments.
- c) Absenteeism and Illness. Punctual attendance is necessary. It is the responsibility of the Employee to inform Greyson Law Center prior to your start of any absenteeism and illness. The Firm has the right to require you to supply proof of illness and fitness to return to work in the form of a doctor's certificate or other form satisfactory to the Firm.

7. At-Will Statement

- a) General At-Will. This letter constitutes the full commitments that have been extended to you. However, Greyson Law Center does not guarantee employment for a specified length of time.
- Mutual Consent. Employment is at the mutual consent of each employee and Greyson Law Center.
- c) Right to Terminate. Accordingly, both parties retain the right to terminate the employment relationship at-will with or without cause.
- d) Identification Documents and Other Paperwork. Upon employment, you will be asked to provide identification documents in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Reform Act of 1986 and complete the I-9 form within three days of employment. You will also be given additional paperwork necessary to complete your file.

If the terms and conditions stated above are acceptable to you, please indicate by signing below and returning to me via email. Please respond within two business days of the date on this correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact me at admin@greysonpc.com.

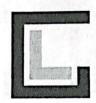
We look forward to a favorable reply! Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Scott J. Eadie

Managing Attorney

Scott F Eadie



GREYSON LAW CENTER

I accept the above offer to be employed by Greyson Law Center PC and understand the terms and conditions set forth in this letter.

Print: First name and last name

Signature

3126123

Date

440 N. Barranca Ave. #1331, Covina, CA 91723 • greysonpc.com

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From: shadae clarke < shadae@theclarkefirm.com >

Date: Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 3:29 PM

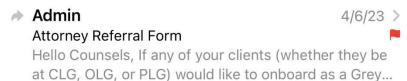
To: Alina Mamlyuk amamlyuk@marshackhays.com>

Subject: Re: LPG POC 02097; Proof of Claim filed by Shadae Clarke

Alina,

See attached the documents attached we spoke about.

The attorney referral form email below was sent to the Greyson attorney's from Han after a team meeting that took place prior to 4/6/23. I am not sure of the exact date. In the meeting Han said that if we had any clients that wanted to keep us as their attorney and leave Phoenix, Consumer Law or Oakstone, we should have them come to Greyson using the referral form in this email. I don't have access to the Greyson email anymore to actually pull up the link they gave us.

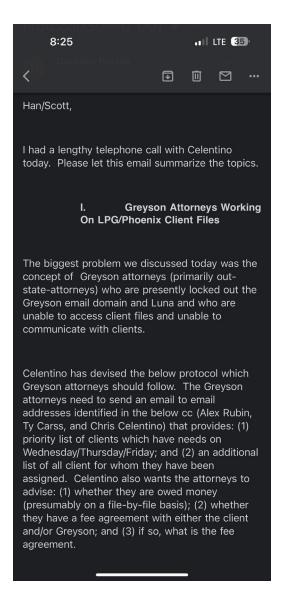


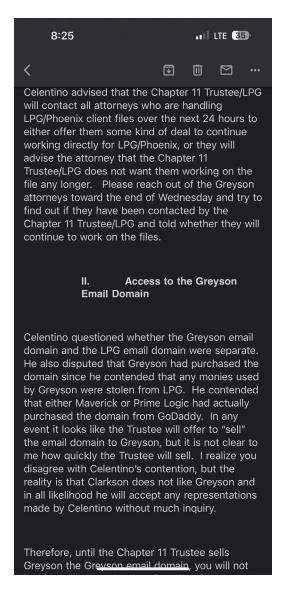
My 1st payroll deposit from Greyson was on 4/5/2023. My last payroll deposit from Greyson was on 5/31/2023.

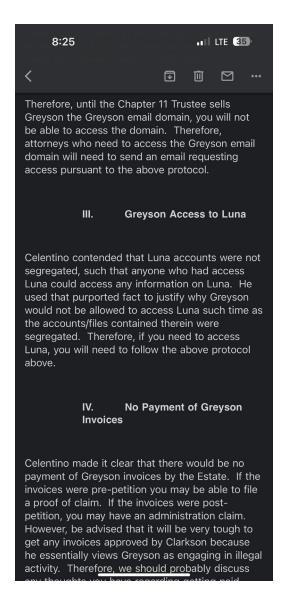
The invoices I provided are for the files I continued to work from 5/31/23 to 8/3/23 when Morning Law back paid the attorneys from 8/4/23.

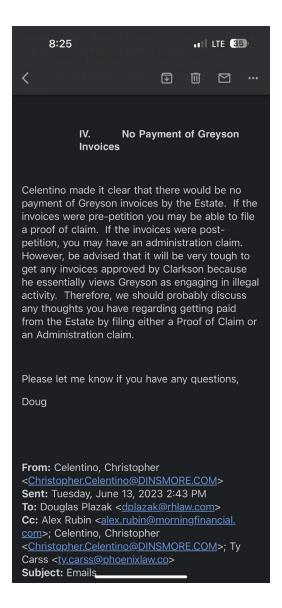
Let me know if you need anything else.

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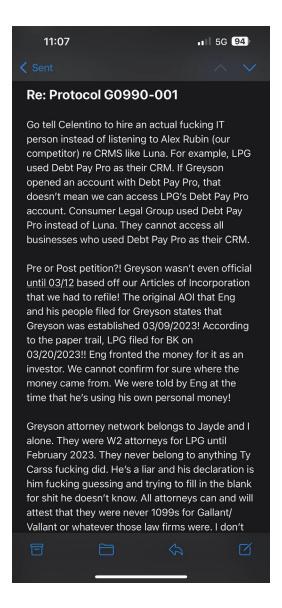


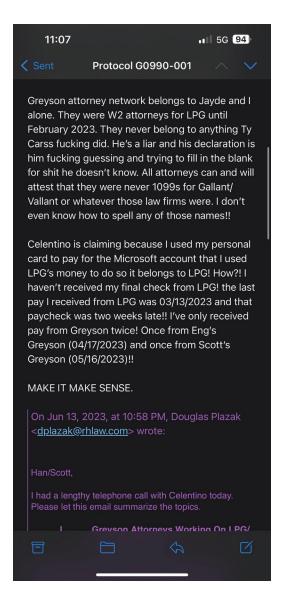






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Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 49 of 195

Shadae,

Thank you so much! This will be a huge help

by the Trustee's Team. That is why there is a small delay. They are working on a comprehensive plan for moving forward with Local Counsel.

I definitely want to move forward, and have a mutually beneficial relationship at the moment, everything has to be reviewed and approved



3/28/24, 5:40 PM

shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com>

Georgia Attorney Formerly with Greyson Ty Carss <ty.carss@phoenixlaw.co>

<christopher.ghio@dinsmore.com>, Phoenix Paralegal <paralegal@phoenixlaw.co> Cc: "Celentino, Christopher" < Christopher. Celentino@dinsmore.com>, Gary DePew < gary.depew@resolution-processing.com>, "Ghio, Christopher To: shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com>

Best,

ţ...

On Mon, Jun 19, 2023 at 3:33 PM shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com> wrote Thanks for reaching out. I can have this matter settled fairly quickly with at the attorney of record, Shenika Collier. I will reach out to her now. Also, please advise

the status of the fee agreement I sent over on Friday for signature

On Mon, Jun 19, 2023 at 6:27 PM Ty Carss <ty.carss@phoenixlaw.co> wrote

I hope this email finds you well. I have a GA matter that has escalated and needs attention. I was hoping the Trustee's Team would have

Citibank vs. David Webb

been able to expound on the plan they are working on, but until then I am asking for your assistance in this matter.

Email: davidwebb2004@comcast.net Secondary Phone: (770) 656-2392 Primary Phone: (770) 656-2392 Social Security Number: XXX-XX-8343 Date of Birth: 03/13/1948 Client ID: 558176614 Primary Address

Norcross, GA 30071 201 Webb drive ,

It is my understanding that this client has filed a lawsuit against LPG and an Affiliate because representation has not been assigned

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=c836766a95&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg-f:1769172436447539115&dsqt=1&simpl=msg-f:1769172436447539115

Mon, Jun 19, 2023 at 6:38 PM

The Clarke Law Firm Mail - Georgia Attorney Formerly with Greyson

The attached document is the only document that we have uploaded to our system

Thanks,

₹ ...

On Fri, Jun 16, 2023 at 3:45 PM shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com> wrote:

See my fee agreement attached

On Fri, Jun 16, 2023 at 4:46 PM Celentino, Christopher < Christopher. Celentino@dinsmore.com> wrote:

Christopher Celentino

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP • Legal Counsel

C (619) 218-3229 • F (619) 400-0501 O (619) 400-0519 San Diego, CA 92101 655 West Broadway Suite 800

E christopher.celentino@dinsmore.com • dinsmore.com

From: shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com>

Sent: Friday, June 16, 2023 8:04 AM

To: Celentino, Christopher < Christopher. Celentino@DINSMORE. COM>

Cc: Ty Carss <ty.carss@phoenixlaw.co>; Phoenix Paralegal <paralegal@phoenixlaw.co>; Ghio, Christopher <Christopher.Ghio@Dinsmore.com>

Subject: Re: Georgia Attorney Formerly with Greyson

Got it! For the cases I have not settled I will file substitutions under my firm. Also, as far as compensation goes. Who should I send my fee agreement to for signature?

Desc

In my absence, please reach out to Chris Ghio next week.

On Fri, Jun 16, 2023 at 1:48 AM Celentino, Christopher < Christopher. Celentino@dinsmore.com> wrote

Christopher Celentino

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP • Legal Counsel 655 West Broadway Suite 800

C (619) 218-3229 • F (619) 400-0501 O (619) 400-0519 E christopher.celentino@dinsmore.com • dinsmore.com

San Diego, CA 92101

From: Ty Carss <ty.carss@phoenixlaw.co>

Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:14 AM

To: shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com>

<Christopher.Ghio@Dinsmore.com> Cc: Phoenix Paralegal <paralegal@phoenixlaw.co>; Celentino, Christopher < Christopher. Celentino@DINSMORE.COM>; Ghio, Christopher

Subject: Re: Georgia Attorney Formerly with Greyson

Good morning Shadae

Thank you for reaching out to me. We very much would like to establish a relationship and move forward with you as well.

I have CC'd the lead attorneys (Chris Celention & Chris Ghio) to this email as well as my paralegal, Sally.

database as well The Trustee's IT wiz can get you access to the files you need from Greyson; and we can get you signed up for our LUNA CRM

,⊤

Best regards,

Good morning Ty,

On Thu, Jun 15, 2023 at 8:24 AM shadae clarke <shadae@theclarkefirm.com> wrote:

I am reaching out from my firm email address since Greyson 's email is down. I have a list of Phoenix clients I am currently handling. See below. I

Georgia case assignments on a 1099 basis under my firm. Please let me know how to set this up with you and the Trustee. Also, without having was previously working with Sally to add notes/updates to the files but I do not have her email address. I am interested in continuing to take on

access to the Greyson email it's pretty hard to finish out the cases. Any advice on how to handle? Thank youl Phoenix Clients Currently Handling

- 1) Kevin Parham- Case settled. Pending CJ from opposing counsel
- 2) Jonathan Watson- In settlement negotiations
- settlement. Please advise her settlement. She said Phoenix was going to reimburse her for payments made under LPG and that those funds should be used to pay her 3) Joan Anderson- Waiting on the client to accept the settlement offer. She told me that Phoenix would be reaching out to me to tell me how to handle
- 4) April L. White- Case settled. Pending CJ from opposing counsel
- 5) Deborah Layssard- Answer due 0n 6/23. Need to file
- 6) Deloris Duff- client unresponsive. Need copy of summons
- 7) Demarco Willis- client has not accepted the settlement offer
- 8) Dorothy Manuel- Case settled. Pending CJ from opposing counsel

Shadae A. Clarke



Visit our website at:



https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=c836766a95&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg-f:1769172436447539115&dsqt=1&simpl=msg-f:1769172436447539115

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Direct: (470) 975-3812

Shadae A. Clarke **Attorney At Law**

www.theclarkefirm.com

Visit our website at:

THE CLAR FIRM

LAW

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Shadae A. Clarke Attorney At Law

Direct: (470) 975-3812

www.theclarkefirm.com Visit our website at:

Managing Attorney | Phoenix Law PC Wm. Taylor "Ty" Carss, Esq.

ty.carss@phoenixlaw.co | Ph. 424.622.4044

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Visit our website at: www.theclarkefirm.com THE CLARKE

LAW

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Managing Attorney | Phoenix Law PC

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BASIC FEE/REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made on this 16th day of June 2023, between Phoenix Law P.C Address: 6080 Center Drive 6th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90045 Phone: (424) 622- 4044 and The Clarke Law Firm, LLC, Attorney Shadae A. Clarke, Address: 1659 Hwy 20 W Unit 132 McDonough, GA 30253 Phone: (470) 975-3812.

Phoenix Law P.C understands and agrees that Attorney Clarke will be listed as counsel on all case assignments accepted from Phoenix Law P.C., including prior cases accepted by way of Greyson Law Center P.C., until this agreement is terminated in writing.

Phoenix Law P.C and Attorney Clarke understand and agree that Attorney Clarke will continue representation until each case is resolved through litigation (not including appeal) or settlement.

Phoenix Law P.C and Attorney Clarke understand and agree that such representation is at the cost of \$2,000 per case assignment received on or after June 16, 2023. Payment is due when the case assignment is accepted by Attorney Clarke in writing.

Phoenix Law P.C case assignments accepted by Attorney Clarke, by way of Greyson Law Center P.C., will be billed at a reduced rate of \$1,500 per case. Payment for these cases will be due upon receipt of The Clarke Law Firm's invoice.

Representation fees are inclusive of all fees incidental to litigation.

Payments will be made via ACH or wire to The Clarke Law Firm, LLC using the account information provided below.

Banking Institution: Wells Fargo Account Name: The Clarke Law Firm, LLC Account# XXXXXXXXXX **ACH Routing# XXXXXXXXX Domestic Wire Routing# XXXXXXXX**



Phoenix Law P.C understands and agrees that Attorney Clarke makes no guarantee about the resolution of cases assigned and makes no warranties about the outcome.

If any matters arise between Phoenix Law P.C and Attorney Clarke, either party agrees to arbitration at the expense of the filing party.

AGREED TO BY:

PHOENIX LAW P.C.

BY: TY CARSS, ESQ., MANAGING ATTORNEY

THE CLARKE LAW FIRM, LLC

BY: SHADAE A. CLARKE, ESQ., SOLE MEMBER

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Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 62 of 195

Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement 2023

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C Employer's name, address, and ZIP code	d Control number 0942-16092497 0000000109 - A	SSOCI	Void	Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service OMB No. 1545-0008			
GREYSON LAW CENTER PC 440 N BARRANCA AVE SUITE 1331 COVINA CA 91723	b Employer identification number (EIN) 92-2834845	a Employee's social security number		1 Wages, tips, other compensation 17176.04	2 Federal income tax withheld 1734.92		
		rement Third-party sick pay		3 Social security wages 17176.04	4 Social security tax withheld 1068.84		
e Empbyee's name, address, and ZIP code	12 See instructions for box 12	14 Other		5 Medicare wages and tips 17176.04	6 Medicare tax withheld 249.97		
SHADAE CLARKE 292 PAULOWNIA CIR				7 Social Security Tips	8 Allocated Tips		
MCDONOUGH GA 30253				10 Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans		
		22,000					
15 State Employer's state ID number 16 State wages, tips, etc. 17 State in GA 3552685-XD 17176.04	839.98 18 Local wa	ges, tips, etc. 19 Loca	al incom	e tax 20 Locality nam	•		

Employer's name, address, and ZP code GREYSON LAW CENTER PC 440 N BARRANCA AVE SUITE 1331 COVINA CA 91723		d Control number Void 0942-16092497 000000109 - ASSOCI					Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service OMB No. 1545-0008		
		b Employer identification number (EIN) 92-2834845		a Employee's social security number			1 Wages, tips, other compensation 17176.04	2 Federal income tax withheld 1734.92	
		13 Statutory employee	Retir	ement an	Third-party sick pay		3 Social security wages 17176.04	4 Social security tax withheld 1068.84	
e Employee's name, address, and ZIP code	12 See instructions for box 12		14 Other		Ť	5 Medicare wages and tips 17176.04	6 Medicare tax withheld 249.97		
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							10 Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans	
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5 State Employer's state ID number 16 State wages, tips, etc. GA 3552685-XD 17:	76.04	income tax 839.98	18 Local wa	ges, tips, etc.	19 Local in	ncome	e tax 20 Locality na	me	

This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service. If you are required to file a tax return, a negligence penalty or other sanction may be imposed on you if this income is taxable and you fail to report it.

Employer's name, address, and ZP code GREYSON LAW CENTER PC 440 N BARRANCA AVE SUITE 1331 COVINA CA 91723		d Control number Vo 0942-16092497 0000000109 - ASSOCI					Department of the Treasu OMB No. 1545-0008	ry - Internal Revenue Service		
		b Employer identification number (EIN) 92-2834845		a Employee's social security number			1 Wages, tips, other compensation 2 Federal income tax w 17176.04			
			13 Statutory employee		ement lan	Third-party sick pay		3 Social security wages 17176.	4 Social security tax withheld 1068.84	
e Empbyse's name, address, and ZP code SHADAE CLARKE 292 PAULOWNIA CIR MCDONOUGH GA 30253		12 See instructions for box 12		14 Other			5 Medicare wages and tips 17176.	6 Medicare tax withheld 249.97		
							7 Social Security Tips	8 Allocated Tips		
								10 Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans	
15 State	Employer's state ID number	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State in	come tax	18 Local wa	ges, fips, etc.	19 Loca	lincome	tax 20 Locality	name
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Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement 2023

c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code			d Control number				Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Servi OMB No. 1545-0008	
		į.	Employer identification number (EIN)	a Employee's social security number		1 Wages, tips, other compensation		2 Federal income tax withheld
		1	13 Statutory Ref	frement plan	Third-party sick pay	3 Social security wages		4 Social security tax withheld
e Employee's name, address, and ZIP code		1	12 See instructions for box 12 14 Other			5 Medicare	wages and tips	6 Medicare tax withheld
						7 Social Se	ecurity Tips	8 Allocated Tips
						10 Depende	ent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans
5 State Employer's state ID number	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State inco	ome tax 18 Local w	ages, tips, etc.	19 Local incor	ne tax	20 Locality na	me

Notice to Employee

Do you have to file? Refer to the Form 1040 instructions to determine if you are required to file a tax return. Even if you don't have to file a tax return, you may be eligible for a refund if box 2 shows an amount or if you are eligible for any credit.

Earned income credit (EIC). You may be able to take the EIC for 2023 if your adjusted gross income (AGI) is less than a certain amount. The amount of the credit is based on income and family size. Workers without children could qualify for a smaller credit. You and any qualifying children must have valid social security numbers (SSNs). You can't take the EIC if your investment income is more than the specified amount for 2023 or if income is earned for services provided while you were an inmate at a penal institution. For 2023 income limits and more information, visit www.irs.gov/EITC. See also Pub. 596. Any EIC that is more than your tax liability is refunded to you, but only if you file a tax return.

Employee's social security number (SSN). For your protection, this form may show only the last four digits of your SSN. However, your employer has reported your complete SSN to the IRS and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Clergy and religious workers. If you aren't subject to social security and Medicare taxes, see Pub. 517.

Corrections. If your name, SSN, or address is incorrect, correct Copies B, C, and 2 and ask your employer to correct your employment record. Be sure to ask the employer to file Form W-2c, Corrected Wage and Tax Statement, with the SSA to correct any name, SSN, or money amount error reported to the SSA on Form W-2. Be sure to get your copies of Form W-2c from your employer for all corrections made so you may file them with your tax return. If your name and SSN are correct but aren't the same as shown on your social security card, you should ask for a new card that displays your correct name at any SSA office or by calling 800-772-1213. You may also visit the SSA website at www.SSA.gov.

Cost of employer-sponsored health coverage (if such cost is provided by the employer). The reporting in box 12, using code DD, of the cost of employer-sponsored health coverage is for your information only. The amount reported with code DD is not taxable.

Credit for excess taxes. If you had more than one employer in 2023 and more than \$9,932.40 in social security and/or Tier 1 railroad retirement (RRTA) taxes were withheld, you may be able to claim a credit for the excess against your federal income tax. See the Form 1040 instructions. If you had more than one railroad employer and more than \$5,821.20 in Tier 2 RRTA tax was withheld, you may be able to claim a refund on Form 843. See the Instructions for Form 843.

Instructions for Employee

- Box 1. Enter this amount on the wages line of your tax return.
- **Box 2.** Enter this amount on the federal income tax withheld line of your tax return.
- Box 5. You may be required to report this amount on Form 8959. Additional Medicare Tax. See the Form 1040 instructions to determine if you are required to complete Form 8959.
- **Box 6.** This amount includes the 1.45% Medicare Tax withheld on all Medicare wages and tips shown in box 5, as well as the 0.9% Additional Medicare Tax on any of those Medicare wages and tips above \$200,000.
- Box 8. This amount is not included in box 1, 3, 5, or 7. For information on how to report tips on your tax return, see the Form 1040 instructions.

You must file Form 4137 with your income tax return to report at least the allocated tip amount unless you can prove with adequate records that you received a smaller amount. If you have records that show the actual amount of tips you received, report that amount even if it is more or less than the allocated tips. Use Form 4137 to figure the social security and Medicare tax owed on tips you didn't report to your employer. Enter this amount on the wages line of your tax return. By filing Form 4137, your social security tips will be credited to your social security record (used to figure your benefits).

- **Box 10.** This amount includes the total dependent care benefits that your employer paid to you or incurred on your behalf (including amounts from a section 125 (cafeteria) plan). Any amount over your employer's plan limit is also included in box 1. See Form 2441.
- Box 11. This amount is (a) reported in box 1 if it is a distribution made to you from a nonqualified deferred compensation or nongovernmental section 457(b) plan, or (b) included in box 3 and/or box 5 if it is a prior year deferral under a nonqualified or section 457(b) plan that became taxable for social security and Medicare taxes this year because there is no longer a substantial risk of forfeiture of your right to the deferred amount. This box shouldn't be used if you had a deferral and a distribution in the same calendar year. If you made a deferral and received a distribution in the same calendar year, and you are or will be age 62 by the end of the calendar year, your employer should file Form SSA-131. Employer Report of Special Wage Payments, with the Social Security Administration and give you a copy.
- Box 12. The following list explains the codes shown in box 12. You may need this information to complete your tax return. Elective deferrals (codes D, E, F, and S) and designated Roth contributions (codes AA, BB, and EE) under all plans are generally limited to a total of \$22,500 (\$15,500 if you only have SIMPLE plans; \$25,500 for section 403(b) plans if you qualify for the 15-year rule explained in Pub. 571). Deferrals under code G are limited to \$22,500. Deferrals under code H are limited to \$7,000.

However, if you were at least age 50 in 2023, your employer may have allowed an additional deferral of up to \$7,500 (\$3,500 for section 401(k)(11) and 408(p) SIMPLE plans). This additional deferral amount is not subject to the overall limit on elective deferrals. For code 6, the limit on elective deferrals may be higher for the last 3 years before you reach retirement age. Contact your plan administrator for more information. Amounts in excess of the overall elective deferral limit must be included in income. See the Form 1040 instructions.

Note: If a year follows code D through H, S, Y, AA, BB, or EE, you made a make-up pension contribution for a prior year(s) when you were in military service. To figure whether you made excess deferrals, consider these amounts for the year shown, not the current year. If no year is shown, the contributions are for the current year.

A—Uncollected social security or RRTA tax on tips. Include this tax on Form 1040 or 1040-SR. See the Form 1040 instructions.

B—Uncollected Medicare tax on tips. Include this tax on Form 1040 or 1040-SR. See the Form 1040 instructions.

D—Elective deferrals to a section 401(k) cash or deferred arrangement. Also includes deferrals under a SIMPLE retirement account that is part of a section 401(k) arrangement.

- E—Elective deferrals under a section 403(b) salary reduction agreement
- F—Elective deferrals under a section 408(k)(6) salary reduction SEP
- **G**—Elective deferrals and employer contributions (including nonelective deferrals) to a section 457(b) deferred compensation plan

H—Elective deferrals to a section 501(c)(18)(D) tax-exempt organization plan. See the Form 1040 instructions for how to deduct.

J—Nontaxable sick pay (information only, not included in box 1, 3, or 5)

K—20% excise tax on excess golden parachute payments. See the Form 1040 instructions.

L—Substantiated employee business expense reimbursements (nontaxable)

M—Uncollected social security or RRTA tax on taxable cost of group-term life insurance over \$50,000 (former employees only). See the Form 1040 instructions.

N—Uncollected Medicare tax on taxable cost of group-term life insurance over \$50,000 (former employees only). See the Form 1040 instructions.

P—Excludable moving expense reimbursements paid directly to a member of the U.S. Armed Forces (not included in box 1, 3, or 5)

R—Employer contributions to your Archer MSA. Report on Form 8853.

S—Employee salary reduction contributions under a section 408(p) SIMPLE plan (not included in box 1)

T—Adoption benefits (not included in box 1). Complete Form 8839 to figure any taxable and nontaxable amounts.

V—Income from exercise of nonstatutory stock option(s) (included in boxes 1, 3 (up to the social security wage base), and 5). See Pub. 525 for reporting requirements.

W—Employer contributions (including amounts the employee elected to contribute using a section 125 (cafeteria) plan) to your health savings account. Report on Form 8889.

Y—Deferrals under a section 409A nonqualified deferred compensation plan

Z—Income under a nonqualified deferred compensation plan that fails to satisfy section 409A. This amount is also included in box 1. It is subject to an additional 20% tax plus interest. See the Form 1040 instructions.

AA—Designated Roth contributions under a section 401(k) plan

BB—Designated Roth contributions under a section 403(b) plan

DD—Cost of employer-sponsored health coverage. The amount reported with code DD is not taxable.

EE—Designated Roth contributions under a governmental section 457(b) plan. This amount does not apply to contributions under a tax-exempt organization section 457(b) plan.

FF—Permitted benefits under a qualified small employer health reimbursement arrangement

GG—Income from qualified equity grants under section 83(i)

HH—Aggregate deferrals under section 83(i) elections as of the close of the calendar year

Box 13. If the "Retirement plan" box is checked, special limits may apply to the amount of traditional IRA contributions you may deduct. See Pub. 590-A.

Box 14. Employers may use this box to report information such as state disability insurance taxes withheld, union dues, uniform payments, health insurance premiums deducted, nontaxable income, educational assistance payments, or a member of the clergy's parsonage allowance and utilities. Railroad employers use this box to report railroad retirement (RRTA) compensation, Tier 1 tax, Tier 2 tax, Medicare tax, and Additional Medicare Tax. Include tips reported by the employee to the employer in railroad retirement (RRTA) compensation.

Note: Keep Copy C of Form W-2 for at least 3 years after the due date for filing your income tax return. However, to help protect your social security benefits, keep Copy C until you begin receiving social security benefits, just in case there is a question about your work record and/or earnings in a particular year.

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EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

THIS EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT (this "Agreement") dated this 20th day of September, 2021 between The Litigation Practice Group PC("LPG" or "Employer")-AND Jane Dearwester(the "Employee")

WHEREAS, The Employer is of the opinion that the Employee has the necessary qualifications, experience and abilities to assist and benefit the Employer in its business; and,

WHEREAS, The Employer desires to employ the Employee and the Employee has agreed to accept and enter such employment upon the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, Employer and Employee agree that to the extent any term provided herein is inconsistentwith the rules promulgated by any Bar to which Employee is admitted, including but notlimited to the applicable Rule of Professional Conduct of such Bar, such rules shall govern and any contrary term herein shall be null and void. All remaining terms of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding such revision to comply with State Bar rules applicable to Employee.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the matters described above and of the mutual benefits and obligations set forth in this Agreement, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

Commencement Date and Term

- The Employee will commence employment with the Employer on the 11th day of October, 2021 (the "Commencement Date"). The Employee agrees to be employed by Employer pursuant to the terms and conditions set out in thisAgreement.
- Subject to termination as provided in this Agreement, the Employee's position has an indefinite duration, but will be reassessed for the purpose of compensation determinations on or within 12 months of the commencement of Employee's employment. The parties acknowledge that various provisions of this Agreement survivepast termination of employment.

Job Title and Description

Employee shall be employed in the position of Attorney. The Employee's job duties shall be as follows: Employee shall manage all matters filed in the States of North Carolina, and once admitted, Tennessee and Kentucky, (the "States of Admission") against or on behalf of clients of LPG, and to counsel clients who reside in the these states (upon admission) with regard to state law. Employee is not required to bill for or otherwise account for time. Employee is expected to act in good faith in connection with the completion of such tasks, and shall act in accordance with the Rules of Professional Conduct applicable to the practice of law at all times. There are no expectations regarding weekly or monthly billing, nor the location at which hours are worked.

- The Employee agrees to be subject to the general supervision of and act pursuant to the orders, advice and direction of the Employer. The Employee will perform such duties as requested by the Employer that are reasonable and that are customarily performed by a person holding the position of Attorney. If Employee does not feel comfortable completing a task due to the Attorney's interpretation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other ethical requirements placed on Attorney by the States of Admission, Employee shall so indicate in writing when declining to complete such activity. No adverse consequence shall befall Employee for refusing to complete a task on this basis.
- Employee warrants that Employee is licensed to practice in law in the State of North Carolina and agrees to pursue, in good faith, a license to practice law in Tennessee and Kentucky. There is no deadline by which Employee must obtain a license to practice in any particular jurisdiction.

Employee Compensation

- In consideration for the services rendered hereunder, Employee shall be paid an annual base salary of One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars, less applicable tax and other authorized payroll deductions. The base salary will be paid on a biweekly basis, in accordance with Employer's standard payroll practices.
- Employer shall pay an admission bonus to Employee within thirty (30) days of Employee's admission to a new state bar. The admission bonus shall be Ten Thousand Dollars, less applicable taxes and withholdings, for the admission to Tennessee and/or Kentucky respectively. The admission bonus shall be Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000), less applicable taxes and withholdings, for admission to any additional state bar beyond Tennessee and Kentucky.
- Employee may originate her own cases and will receive an additional origination bonus equal to 50% of the revenue generated from such cases. For purposes of this provision, revenue shall mean all money received by Employer as a result of services provided on the case without the deduction of any fees or costs of any kind. To be eligible for the origination bonus, the Employee should indicate in writing to the Employer that Employee is eligible for the origination bonus on a particular case. The origination bonus shall be paid in quarterly installments, less applicable taxes and withholdings, within thirty (30) days of the close of the calendar quarter in which it is earned.

Place of Work and Tools

- Employer shall provide Employee with office space, conference rooms sufficient to meet with clients, and all tools necessary to perform Employee's work. Employee may choose from time to time to work from home in Employee's discretion, so long as Employee is in the office on dates and times requested by LPG, which requests shall be made reasonably in advance of such meeting so as to allow Employee to adequately plan and prepare for such meeting. Employee shall be permitted to work from home at all other times, without limitation.
 - Employer shall provide Employee with a laptop computer at no cost for use during 10.

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the term of this Agreement. Employee's use of the Employer-provided laptop is unrestricted during the term of this Agreement, and Employer shall respect Employee's privacy in the use of the laptop. Employee shall return the laptop to Employer at the end of Employee's employment and is expected to delete and any all private information from the laptop prior to returning the same to Employer. Employee agrees not to delete information belonging to Employer prior to returning the laptop.

- Employer shall be responsible for all marketing costs, including but not limited to 11. Employee's business cards, the use of online advertising, the maintenance of a website, and any other print or radio advertising designed to generate cases for Employer.
- Employer shall pay any and all dues/fees for any State Bar to which Employee isadmitted for 2021 and each calendar year thereafter. LPG will also pay all fees and costs associated with the process of being admitted to any State or Federal Bar, including, but not limited to the Kentucky and Tennessee bars, including costs associated with the application and admission, including any course necessary to take any exam required for admission.
- The Employer will reimburse the Employee for all expenses associated with 13. performing the services hereunder, including but not limited to, any travel and related expenses incurred by the Employee in connection with the business of the Employer. Employee shall submit such requests in accordance with the Employer's polices to admin@litigationpracticegroup.com. Reimbursement shall be made with thirty (30) days of Employee's submission of the request.

Benefits

- Employer shall provide malpractice insurance for Employee to cover all legal 14. services provided by Employee during the term of this Agreement. Employee shall not be responsible for any premium or deductible due under this policy regardless of the event or circumstance giving rise to the premium or deductible.
- Employer shall also provide medical, dental and vision insurance at no cost to Employee. Employee shall be eligible for other insurance benefits in accordance with the terms of the applicable plans. Employee shall be eligible for all insurance benefits in accordance with the terms of the applicable plans.
- Employee shall also be eligible to participate in the Employer's 401K program in 16. accordance with the terms of the applicable plan.
- Each calendar year Employee shall have four (4) full weeks of vacation, during which time Employee shall be relieved of all duties associated with the services provided hereunder. Employee agrees to work with Employer to arrange for coverage counsel as necessary during any vacation. Employer shall be fully responsible for any costs associated with coverage counsel necessary as a result of Employee's vacation.

Conflict of Interest

During the term of the Employee's employment with the Employer, Employee may solicit business and pursue clients for any other legal entity owned and/or operated by

Employee. Provided, however, Employee agrees that in every representation, whether of a client on behalf of LPG or otherwise, Employee will follow all procedures required for eliminating conflicts of interests as required by LPG's malpractice insurance policy and the Professional Rules of Conduct applicable to attorneys in the States of Admission.

Confidential Information

- 19. The Employee acknowledges that, in Employee's position, and as result of the Employee's employment by the Employer, the Employee will, or may, be making use of, acquiring or adding to information which is confidential to the Employer (the "Confidential Information"). The Confidential Information includes all data and information relating to the business of the Employer, including but not limited to, proprietary and trade secret technology and accounting records to which access is obtained by the Employee, including Work Product, Computer Software, Other Proprietary Data, Business Operations, and Marketing and Development Operations. Except to the extent otherwise governed by the Rules of Professional Conduct of the States of Admission, the Confidential Information is the exclusive property of the Employer. All client data shall be treated in accordance with the Rules of Professional Conduct of the States of Admission.
- 20. Information that would otherwise meet the definition of Confidential Information, will not be considered Confidential Information is it:
 - a. Is generally known in the industry of the Employer;
- b. Is now or subsequently becomes generally available to the public through nowrongful act of the Employee;
- c. Was rightfully in the possession of the Employee prior to the disclosure to the Employee by the Employer;
- d. Is independently created by the Employee without direct or indirect use of the Confidential Information; or
- e. The Employee rightfully obtains from a third party who has the right to transfer or disclose it.
- 21. The Confidential Information will also not include anything developed or produced by the Employee during the Employee's term of employment with the Employer, including but not limited to, any intellectual property, process, design, development, creation, research, invention, know-how, trade name, trade-mark or copyright that:
- a. Was developed without the use of equipment, supplies, facility or ConfidentialInformation of the Employer;
 - b. Was developed entirely on the Employee's own time;
 - c. Does not result from any work performed by the Employee for the Employer;
- d. Does not relate to any actual or reasonably anticipated business opportunity of the Employer; or
 - e. Relates to matters originated by Employee.

Duties and Obligations Concerning Confidential Information

- 22. The Employee agrees that a material term of the Employee's contract with the Employeris to keep all Confidential Information confidential and protect its release from the public. The Employee agrees not to divulge, reveal, report or use, for any purpose, any of the Confidential Information which the Employee has obtained or which was disclosed to the Employee by the Employer as a result of the Employee's employment by the Employer.
- 23. The Employee agrees and acknowledges that the Confidential Information is of a proprietary and confidential nature and that any disclosure of the Confidential Information to a third party in breach of this Agreement cannot be reasonably or adequately compensated for in money damages, would cause irreparable injury to Employer, would gravely affect the effective and successful conduct of the Employer's business and goodwill, and would be a material breach of this Agreement.
- 24. The obligations to ensure and protect the confidentiality of the Confidential Information imposed on the Employee in this Agreement and any obligations to provide notice under this Agreement will survive the expiration or termination, as the case may be, of this Agreement and will continue for five (5) years from the date of such expiration or termination, except in the case of any Confidential Information which is a trade secret inwhich case those obligations will last indefinitely.
 - 25. The Employee may disclose any of the Confidential Information:
 - a. To a third party where Employer has consented in writing to such disclosure; or
- b. To the extent required by law or by the request or requirement of any judicial, legislative, administrative or other governmental body after providing reasonable prior notice to the Employer.
- 26. If the Employee loses or makes unauthorized disclosure of any of the Confidential Information, the Employee will immediately notify the Employer and take all reasonablesteps necessary to retrieve the lost or improperly disclosed Confidential Information.

Ownership and Title to Confidential Information

- 27. The Employee acknowledges and agrees that all rights, title and interest in any Confidential Information will remain the exclusive property of the Employer. Accordingly, the Employee specifically agrees and acknowledges that the Employee will have no interest in the Confidential Information, including, without limitation, no interest in know-how, copyright, trademarks or trade names, notwithstanding the fact that the Employee may have created or contributed to the creation of the Confidential Information.
- 28. The Employee agrees to execute any instruments and to do all other things reasonably requested by the Employer, both during and after the Employee's employment with the Employer, in order to vest more fully in the Employer all ownership rights in those items transferred by the Employee to the Employer.

Return of Confidential Information

Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC

- 29. The Employee agrees that, upon request of the Employer or upon termination or expiration, as the case may be, of this agreement, the Employee will turn over to the Employer all Confidential Information belonging to the Employer, including but not limited to, all documents, plans, specifications, disks or other computer media, as well asany duplicates or backups made of that Confidential Information in whatever form or media, in the possession or control of the Employee that:
- May contain or be derived from ideas, concepts, creations, or trade secrets and other proprietary and Confidential Information as defined in this Agreement; or
- Is connected with or derived from the Employee's employment with the Employer.

Provided however, nothing herein shall require the Employee to do anything with client files that is in conflict with any of the Rules of Professional Conduct in any of the States of Admission.

Definitions

- For the purpose of this Agreement the following definitions will apply: 30.
- 'Work Product' means work product information, including but not limited to, work product resulting from or related to work or projects performed or to be performed for the Employer or for clients of the Employer, of any type or formin any stage of actual or anticipated research and development.
- 'Computer Software' means computer software resulting from or related to work or projects performed or to be performed for the Employer or for clients of the Employer, of any type or form in any stage of actual or anticipated research and development, including but not limited to, programs and program modules, routines and subroutines, processes, algorithms, design concepts, design specifications (design notes, annotations, documentation, flowcharts, coding sheets, and the like), source code, object code and load modules, programming, program patches and system designs.
- 'Other Proprietary Data' means information relating to the Employer's proprietary rights prior to any public disclosure of such information, including but not limited to, the nature of the proprietary rights, production data, technical and engineering data, test data and test results, the status and details of research and development of products and services, and information regarding acquiring, protecting, enforcing and licensing proprietary rights (including patents, copyrights and trade secrets).
- 'Business Operations' means operational information, including but not limited to, internal personnel and financial information, vendor names and other vendor information (including vendor characteristics, services and agreements), purchasing and internal cost information, internal services and operational manuals, and the manner and methods of conducting the Employer's business.
- 'Marketing and Development Operations' means marketing and development information, including but not limited to, marketing and development plans, price and cost data, price and fee amounts, pricing and billing policies, quoting procedures, marketing techniques and methods of obtaining business, forecasts and forecast assumptions and volumes, and future plans and potential strategies of the Employer which have been or are being considered.

Contract Binding Authority

31. Notwithstanding any other term or condition expressed or implied in this Agreement to the contrary, the Employee will not have the authority to enter into any contracts or commitments for or on the behalf of the Employer without first obtaining the expresswritten consent of the Employer except for engagement agreements with clients.

Termination of Agreement and Employment

- 32. During the first ninety days of employment of Employee beginning with the Commencement Date, either Party may terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the other party.
- 33. Employer may terminate this Agreement without cause upon a four week written notice to the Employee. Employee may terminate this Agreement without cause upon a two week written notice to the Employer.
- 34. Employer may terminate this Agreement for Cause upon written notice to Employee if Employee loses her North Carolina Law License or is convicted of committing a felony. Employee may terminate this Agreement for Cause upon written notice to Employer if Employer fails to provide an office or necessary tools to perform the services hereunder or fails to pay her compensation as set forth herein and upon notice to Employer, Employer fails to so provide within forty-eight (48) hours.
- 35. Once notice has been given by either party for any reason, the Employee and the Employer agree to execute their duties and obligations under this Agreement diligently and in good faith through to the end of the notice period. The Employer may not make any changes to compensation or any other term or condition of this Agreement between the time termination notice is given through to the end of the notice period. Employer shall be responsible to make all payments due to Employee in accordance with the Employer's regularly scheduled payroll schedule.

Severability

36. The Employer and the Employee acknowledge that this Agreement is reasonable, valid and enforceable. However, if any term, covenant, condition or provision of this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, it is the parties' intent that such provision be changed in scope by the court only to the extent deemed necessary by that court to render the provision reasonable and enforceable and the remainder of the provisions of this Agreement willin no way be affected, impaired or invalidated as a result.

Notices

37. Any notices, deliveries, requests, demands or other communications required here willbe deemed to be completed when sent to the following email address:

Employer:

Name: The Litigation Practice Group PC

admin@LPGLaw.com

Employee:

Name: Jane Dearwester

janedearwester19@gmail.com

Modification of Agreement

- 38. Any amendment or modification of this Agreement or additional obligation assumed by either party in connection with this Agreement will only be binding if evidenced in writing signed by each party.
- 39. Attorney understands and agrees that LPG may utilize certain information and images of Employee on LPG's website, mobile application, and online client portal. LPG may also affix the signature of Employee with Employee's prior, written consent, for template and other legal correspondence sent to the States of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Governing Law

40. This Agreement will be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the Sate of North Carolina.

General Provisions

- 41. Headings are inserted for the convenience of the parties only and are not to be considered when interpreting this Agreement. Words in the singular mean and include the plural and vice versa. Words in the masculine mean and include the feminine and vice versa.
- 42. No failure or delay by either party to this Agreement in exercising any power, right or privilege provided in this Agreement will operate as a waiver, nor will any single or partial exercise of such rights, powers or privileges preclude any further exercise ofthem or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege provided in this Agreement.
- 43. This Agreement will inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, as the case may be, of the Employer and the Employee.
- 44. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts. Facsimile signatures are binding and are considered to be original signatures.
- 45. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and there are no further items or provisions, either oral or written. The parties to this Agreement stipulatethat neither of them has made any representations with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement except such representations as are specifically set forth in this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have duly affixed their signatures under hand and seal on this 20th day of September, 2021.

EMPLOYER:

Daniel S. March

Managing Shareholder, The Litigation Practice Group PC

EMPLOYEE:

Jane Dearwester

4835-7293-2606, v. 2

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From: Mario Azevedo < Mario@Azevedo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 9:42 PM

To: Jane Dearwester; Admin

Cc: Jayde Trinh; Han Trinh; Laura Ceva

Subject: RE: LPG NC - ethics compliance with C&D letters, welcome packet, etc.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Thanks Jane,

I will wait for those documents from you before we set up those states.

-Mario

From: Jane Dearwester [mailto:jane@lpglaw.com] **Sent:** Tuesday, November 1, 2022 4:32 PM

To: Mario Azevedo; Admin

Cc: Jayde Trinh; Han Trinh; Laura Ceva

Subject: RE: LPG NC - ethics compliance with C&D letters, welcome packet, etc.

Thanks Mario.

No – the KY LSA will have to be vetted by ethics counsel as well to be in compliance with KY state bar rules and rules of professional conduct. I'll run that down while I'm getting LPG set up as a legal entity in KY. I'm also pending application to TN, but it sounds like there may already be a TN attorney for LPG in Nashville... so I'm not sure if that process has been done already in TN.

Thank you,

Jane Dearwester
Attorney At Law
North Carolina

Physical address: 60 N. Market St. Suite 101 Asheville, NC 28801 Mobile: 828-301-3681

The Litigation Practice Group PC P.O. Box 513018
Los Angeles, CA 90051
p: 949.715.0644
f: 949.315.4332

f: 949.315.4332 www.lpglaw.com



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From: Mario Azevedo < Mario@Azevedo.com > Sent: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 1:52 PM

To: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>; Jane Dearwester <jane@lpglaw.com>

Cc: Jayde Trinh <Jayde@lpglaw.com>; Han Trinh <han@lpglaw.com>; Laura Ceva <lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: RE: LPG NC - ethics compliance with C&D letters, welcome packet, etc.

Hi Jane,

We attempted to find a better way to implement your contracts in DebtPayPro other than "if" statements for each state. Right now, that is our only option and will have in place by end of week. They are working with us to come up with a better solution.

For Kentucky, can we use the same NC contract and just replace the name of the state? Let me know if you need any other changes on it.

Thanks, Mario

From: Admin [mailto:admin@lpglaw.com]
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 10:56 PM

To: Jane Dearwester

Cc: Jayde Trinh; Han Trinh; Laura Ceva; Mario Azevedo

Subject: Re: LPG NC - ethics compliance with C&D letters, welcome packet, etc.

Hi Jane -

I am looping in Mario as he can update you on the progress adding your name and information to letters directed to North Carolina creditors. We obviously want to do the same in Kentucky now that you are admitted. If there is a NC welcome letter, that would be easy to automate and send out to new clients, please forward once you have a draft and we will implement that process as well.

Our goal is to do this in every state, and Mario and I have discussed this process for years. We may ask you to explain the importance of this to some of your colleagues if there is any pushback, but so far everyone seems to be on board.

If anything else is needed Mario will let you know, otherwise we will update you once we are ready to go live.

Also, I agree completely, we always train our reps to avoid telling clients to stop paying any creditors. If you ever see a file where that occured please let General Han know, she will address it with the rep. That should be zero tolerance.

Thanks!

The Litigation Practice Group PC

17542 E. 17th St., Ste 100

Tustin, CA 92780

p: 949.715.0644

f: 949.315.4332

www.lpglaw.com



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From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 8:34 AM

To: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>

Cc: Jayde Trinh < <u>Jayde@lpglaw.com</u>>; Han Trinh < <u>han@lpglaw.com</u>>; Laura Ceva < <u>lceva@lpglaw.com</u>>

Subject: LPG NC - ethics compliance with C&D letters, welcome packet, etc.

Hey there – I was looking back at my notes from my conversations with Josh, our ethics counsel – and we need to make sure that any letter sent out to a NC client or on behalf of a NC client has my signature on it. It's my understanding that Mario was making changes in DPP to the standard LSA to incorporate the NC specific changes and to include my signature (instead of Dan March's signature).

Also, telling clients to stop paying their credit card bills/debts is considered legal advice in NC – so that advice can only be given by me or Laura (or someone at our direction).

We are working on a NC introduction letter than has our direct contact information that we want to send along to each client when they sign up. We will send you a draft when we have it ready later this week. We can merge this letter here with addresses with DPP, or maybe it can be done automatically in DPP once you have our form letter. It could become part of the NC Welcome Packet.

Let me know what you think.

Sincerely,

Jane Dearwester Attorney At Law North Carolina

60 N. Market St. Suite 101 Asheville, NC 28801

Office: 828-398-0057 Mobile: 828-301-3681 Fax: 828-398-4103 E: jane@lpglaw.com www.lpglaw.com



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From: Jane Dearwester

Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 1:43 PM

To: Attorney; Legal

Subject: FW: Congratulations on your transition to Oakstone Law Group!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Were we hacked??? This is the second client who said they got this notification?

From: Blair Richardson

 brich11111@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 8:31 AM

To: Administrations LPG <administrations@lpglaw.com>

Cc: Reuben Galvan < RGalvan@lpglaw.com>; Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: Congratulations on your transition to Oakstone Law Group!

Daniel,

Thank you for your email notifying me of this change. I look forward to your firms expertise handling my file. I will say, there are big shoes to fill. I was/am very happy with LPG and I understand accounts get transferred etc. all I ask is to continue doing the best your firm can do for me and my family, as did LPG. I look forward to more information when I get a call or future emails. Have a great weekend.

James "Blair" Richardson 704-641-2019

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2023, at 6:35 AM, Administrations LPG <administrations@lpglaw.com> wrote:

Dear Valued Client -

I am writing to inform you of a transition in the legal services you are receiving from my firm, Litigation Practice Group, to a law firm I know and trust, Oakstone Law Group ("OLG"). After careful consideration, I have decided to transfer your file in order to ensure that you receive the best possible legal services in the industry. This law firm, which is larger and more experienced in the area of consumer rights, is also based in California and has expertise fighting the largest banks and creditors in the nation. Its reputation has been built by attorneys across the country with a combined experience of more than 100 years of providing legal services to clients of all types. This transition will allow OLG, whose attorneys I have worked with multiple times during my career, to manage your account and continue to provide a high level of service to you throughout your debt resolution process.

Based on a negotiation I managed to complete, the terms of your agreement will remain the same, and you will not be required to pay anything more than what was agreed in your contract. All of your payments have been credited, and your monthly payment will remain the same amount and will be taken on the same day. The length of your program and

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contract are also the same. To be clear, your payment, the length of your program, and the services that you are offered will remain exactly the same and comes with a guarantee that if your debts are not resolved at the conclusion of your program, you will receive a full refund of the fees paid toward such debts. Just as with Litigation Practice Group, OLG will represent you in any lawsuit filed against you without any additional cost to you. This transfer will be completed today, on Thursday, February 2nd, and a representative from OLG will reach out to you to welcome you to their law firm. I wish you the best of luck and success in completion of your journey to being debt free.

If you have any questions regarding this transition, please call OLG at 858-330-3009.

Regards, Daniel S. March

<image001.png>

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From: Rayshaun Thompson < tiddle96@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 9:17 AM

To: Attorney

Cc: Laura Ceva; Jane Dearwester; Legal

Subject: Re: Welcome to Phoenix - Rayshaun Thompson (#709823381)

Attachments: image001.png

I appreciate the guidance. However, has LPG had any transactions with Phoenix Law in the past? If there really was a high volume account transfer, they don't seem equipped to handle it. Whether that be in staffing or care.

- Rayshaun Thompson

On Fri, Mar 3, 2023, 9:03 PM Attorney <attorney@lpglaw.com > wrote: Hi Rayshaun,

Please request to speak to Ty Carss if an agent does not reach out shortly or provide you with substantial information. Push for it. They need to give you an explanation and help you understand what is going on.

If this is to no avail, you can try to reach out to the California State Bar to assist.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Service Phoenix Law < service@phoenixlaw.co>

Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 11:29 AM **To:** Laura Ceva lceva@lpglaw.com

Cc: Rayshaun Thompson <tiddle96@gmail.com>; Jane Dearwester <jane@lpglaw.com>; Legal

<legal@lpglaw.com>; Attorney <attorney@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: Welcome to Phoenix - Rayshaun Thompson (#709823381)

Hello,

Thank you. An agent will be getting in touch with the client, shortly.

Best Regards, Service Team Phoenix Law PC p. (424) 622-4044 PhoenixLaw.co

Notes presenting on any format filtry present across described of the place between		

On Thu, Mar 2, 2023 at 8:24 AM Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com > wrote:

I am sorry you are dealing with this. I saw in the file that your cancellation was completed last we communicated. I have escalated this to the back office and hope someone reaches out to you soon. At this time, I would advise you dispute the charge directly with your bank while you wait to hear back.

Laura Ceva

Case Manager

60 N. Market Street, Suite 101

Asheville, NC 28801

P: 828-398-0057

F: 828-398-4103



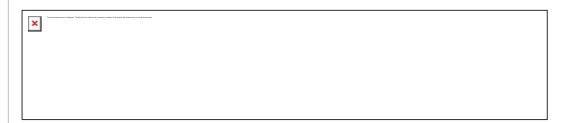
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From: Rayshaun Thompson < tiddle96@gmail.com > Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 11:19 AM To: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com > Cc: service@phoenixlaw.co; Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > Subject: Re: Welcome to Phoenix
Hello Laura,
It seems like an amount was still debited from the account on my file for the amount \$325.26 on Feb 28, 2023. I'll be reaching out to Phoenix Law later today as well.
Best,
Rayshaun Thompson
On Thu, Feb 23, 2023 at 10:31 AM Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com > wrote:
Mr. Thompson, the firm is going through a transition. I see that you were cancelled out of the program effective 2/16. You were probably sent this email by mistake. Please let me know if any more payments are drafted, but I do see that you have been cancelled out of the program.
Laura Ceva
Case Manager
60 N. Market Street, Suite 101
Asheville, NC 28801

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P: 828-398-0057

F: 828-398-4103



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From: Rayshaun Thompson < tiddle96@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 8:20 PM

To: service@phoenixlaw.co

Cc: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com >; Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com >

Subject: Re: Welcome to Phoenix

Hello,

Would you disclose who provided my information to Phoenix law without my consent? If you were informed by LPG, then this organization would know of my written notice of cancellation. There is no longer any account (services provided from LPG) to transfer over to Phoenix Law, as such were rendered cancelled as of Feb 15, 2023.

Best,

Rayshaun Thompson

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On Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 4:07 PM service@phoenixlaw.co wrote:

Dear Valued Client -

Congratulations and welcome to Phoenix Law! We are very excited to welcome you to our firm and look forward to helping you complete the journey of becoming debt free! As you were recently informed by Litigation Practice Group, your file has been transitioned to Phoenix Law due to our expertise in consumer rights. We intend to go after your creditors and force a resolution of your debts. Based on special discounted terms negotiated on your behalf, your payment amount and term will remain the same as with Litigation Practice Group, meaning your payment will draft from your account on the same date and in the same amount as before, and your payment terms will end on the same date as before. The difference is Phoenix Law's unique method of challenging creditors to resolve your debts.

As with Litigation Practice Group, Phoenix Law will dispute the validity of your debts and force creditors to show that they have complied with state and federal law in the course of underwriting and servicing your debts. In addition, as with Litigation Practice Group, Phoenix Law will represent and defend you in court if any of your creditors file suit against you, and will do so without any additional fees or costs to you. But unlike Litigation Practice Group, Phoenix Law does not simply wait for creditors to react. Rather, Phoenix Law believes the best defense is a good offense. For that reason, Phoenix Law specializes in initiating actions against creditors. We do this first by gathering information regarding the creditors' practices in general and with regard to your account. We use information gathered in thousands of lawsuits to attack creditors' weak spots and pressure them to walk away from collection activity or agree to pay damages for the violations of state and federal law that they commit. Our network of dedicated attorneys nationwide have substantial experience litigating against major creditors, and use the credibility built over years of litigation to obtain favorable results for you.

One of our legal administrative representatives will reach out to you to welcome you to our Law Firm. Our work on your behalf will begin today, and we will keep you updated regarding our progress throughout the duration of your services with Phoenix Law. We want to encourage you to reach out with any questions you have and will follow up with additional information over the coming days and weeks. Please do not hesitate to call us at (424) 622-4044 or by email at service@phoenixlaw.co. (not .com). We look forward to working with you to achieve financial freedom and become debt free!

Truly Yours,

Ty Carss, Esq.

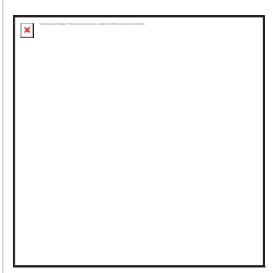
Managing Attorney

Phoenix Law PC

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p. (424) 622-4044

PhoenixLaw.co



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From: Jane Dearwester

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 3:05 PM

To: dan@litigationpracticegroup.com; Admin; Legal; Attorney

Subject: LPG NC/KY - client transfers

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

After reviewing the mass emails that are being sent out to NC and KY clients over the past few weeks by LPG and after consultation with our ethics counsel, I have to make a demand for LPG to immediately stop transferring or attempting to transfer clients or client information without the prior written consent from each individual client. First and foremost, LPG owes NC and KY clients a duty of confidentiality. In NC, clients have the right to choose their legal counsel. A law firm may not make a unilateral decision to transfer representation of any client and/or client data without the client's prior written consent. By sending out these mass emails and potentially transferring client data to another unrelated entity outside of LPG, LPG is in direct violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct for NC and KY.

To that end, I need for someone at LPG to provide me with a list of all active NC and KY LPG clients, indicating which ones have been transferred to either Oakstone and/or Phoenix Law. Those transfers must be immediately rescinded in a manner that ensures confidentiality of client data. The clients must all go back to LPG so that they can be advised of their legal representation options. After the clients are back with LPG, I will draft a proper communication to each client that complies with the Rules of Professional Conduct for the respective state giving each client their options: to stay with LPG (if that is an option – someone please clarify this), go to Oakstone/Phoenix (after confirmation that Oakstone and/or Phoenix have a NC or KY licensed attorney currently on staff), or hire an attorney of their choice. I am working closely with ethics counsel to make sure that this transition is done properly, in compliance with the rules of professional conduct for NC and KY, and in the best interest of our clients.

LPG is also in breach of the terms of my employment contract – for non-compliance with the rules of professional conduct, failure to pay rent and associated operating expenses of the NC office, failure to meet payroll obligations, and failure to remit payment within 30 days for my quarterly bonuses for 2022. I sincerely hope that we can move forward with more open and transparent communications regarding these very serious issues.

Sincerely,

Jane Dearwester Attorney At Law (Licensed in NC and KY)

60 N. Market St. Suite 101 Asheville, NC 28801

Office: 828-398-0057 Mobile: 828-301-3681 Fax: 828-398-4103 E: jane@lpglaw.com www.lpglaw.com



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From: Jane Dearwester

Sent:Tuesday, February 28, 2023 1:37 PMTo:dan@litigationpracticegroup.com

Cc: Olga Esquivel Subject: meeting request

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Dan,

Good afternoon from NC. In light of the confusing transition that is currently upon us, I would like to set up a call with you to discuss what's going on. I have already reached out to my personal attorneys, and I have had all 3 attorneys now advise me that the actions of LPG/Oakstone/Phoneix are putting my law licenses in jeopardy. The client transitions are in direct violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct for NC and KY. LPG is also in breach of the terms of my current employment contract.

I am not having any luck getting a straight answer from anyone about the status of LPG – what's happening, is it dissolving, how do we advise the clients, etc. I'm hoping you can provide some information and transparency around this transition. I will make time to speak with you when you are available this week. I'm fairly open tomorrow and Friday and also have time Thursday between 1-2pm EST.

Sincerely,

Jane Dearwester
Attorney At Law
(Licensed in NC and KY)

60 N. Market St. Suite 101 Asheville, NC 28801

Office: 828-398-0057 Mobile: 828-301-3681 Fax: 828-398-4103 E: jane@lpglaw.com www.lpglaw.com



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Jane Dearwester

From: Kent Cobb

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 7:04 PM

To: LPG Counsel

Subject: I just talked to Han - - some good news

Importance: High

Hello everyone,

I just talked with Han (Monday, 3/6/23 approximately 5:55 CST). Some good news:

- 1) The pay from LPG is still coming, though it will hit tomorrow and not today. It will include vacation pay due.
- 2) We are getting paid by Oakstone this Friday. CHECK YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL TONIGHT FOR PAYROLL PAPERWORK -- AND COMPLETE IT TONIGHT AND RETURN IT!
- 3) You will soon be getting a new credit card...so you won't have to worry about fronting money and getting reimbursed.

Hang in there everyone.

Kent Cobb Attorney Licensed in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa & Wyoming The Litigation Practice Group PC 1111 Main Street, #1523 Conway, AR 72033 p: 918-313-6113

p: 501-499-0203 www.lpglaw.com Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 97 of 195

From: Attorney

Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Jane Dearwester

Subject: Oakstone

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Lawyers

Good afternoon Jane,

Client volume has become too overwhelming at LPG, so we have begun the process of transferring certain files to other law firms. One of those law firms is Oakstone Law Group, which I am currently managing while looking for a permanent managing attorney. This was done to ensure that our clients will continue to receive personalized representation from licensed attorneys for all legal matters. Moving forward, LPG will work with other law firms to ensure that its size does not hinder the representation of clients.

Existing cases that have already been assigned will remain with current counsel until they are completed. For any clients whose profile remains in DebtPayPro/Forth, you can continue to leave updates/notes on DPP/Forth. If you cannot locate a client file on DPP/Forth, then it means the client file has been transferred to that law firm's CRM, and you will have to email updates to Legal@LPGLaw.com. Legal will ensure the update makes it way to the client file. Essentially, please carry on with normal protocol for existing cases. Any existing active lawsuits must be finished under the LPG name. If a new file comes along, it may be assigned to you from a new entity. In that case you will receive a contract from that new entity and will be compensated by that new entity.

Additionally, Dan, Tony and I had a conversation and came to a consensus that it would be best for them to phase out and, eventually, step down for the benefit of the firm. Both Dan and Tony will remain with LPG for now, but will not be a part of any new ventures and will have no role in any new firms. This decision was made based upon their desires as well as the best needs of the firms that will continue representing our evergrowing client population, which is now growing at a pace that requires multiple full-service law firms to service.

We are confident that this is the best route as regards our clients and our employees, and will improve our clients' experience and eliminate processes that did not run smoothly.

Regards,

Jayde Trinh
General Counsel **The Litigation Practice Group PC**17542 17th Street, Suite 100

Tustin. CA 92780

tel. (949) 715-0644 fax (949) 315-4332 attorney@lpglaw.com



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From: Attorney

Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 8:42 PM **To:** Laura Henna; Jane Dearwester

Subject: Re: Employment Offer

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Jane and Laura,

We need a decision by Monday 10am on whether you are coming to Oakstone. If you choose not to come to Oakstone, you have the option of keeping client themselves and representing them from there OR asking client if they wish to go to Oakstone.

LPG won't exist so staying at LPG is not an option for client since when LPG winds up, there won't be licensed counsel at LPG and LPG cannot represent client.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Laura Henna < lauraeceva@gmail.com> Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 11:31:19 AM

To: Mary Harris <mary@guardianprocessing.com>

Cc: Oakstone Admin <admin@oakstonepc.com>; Legal <legal@lpglaw.com>; Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>; Jane

Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com>; Attorney < attorney@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: Employment Offer

Ms. Harris et al,

I would like clarification as this transition to Oakstone has been wrought with misinformation. I have copied LPG's Admin, Attorney, and Legal contacts here as this pertains to both entities, and Jane for her reference.

What you all may or may not know, is that I am actually an attorney here in North Carolina. I received my license in 2012. I chose to come on as Jane's Legal Assistant as we are a good team with a history of working well together, and I wanted to feel the company out before I chose to move into an attorney position. Tony and I discussed this in my interview call back when I was first hired. Jane and I have painstakingly put systems into place and assisted LPG in getting established in NC and KY within the bounds of the rules of professional conduct, and have been working tirelessly to correct mistakes made by prior LPG "of counsel" attorneys in both NC and KY for over a year. We have been successful in our endeavors and were poised to help LPG quickly grow within NC, KY and TN. Our commitment to the clients and the LPG mission has been paramount in our work.

That being said, I have lost a lot of confidence that LPG and/or Oakstone will agree to move forward in a way that complies with our rules of professional conduct. I have yet to receive a paycheck from LPG for any work I have performed since February 13th, 2023 to date. I have been given assurances that a

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paycheck was forthcoming many times. I have continued to work on LPG files as I have not been terminated nor have I resigned from LPG. The information we have gotten is that LPG will continue to operate in some capacity. Further, a large number of our clients are still enrolled at LPG. In fact, we are still getting Legal case assignments and new enrollments daily from LPG. Additionally, as Jane has told LPG, per the NC and KY State Bar rules of professional conduct, LPG files in North Carolina and Kentucky CANNOT be transferred to another entity without each client's written consent is obtained *after* they've been informed of the changes with LPG *and* been given the various options they have to move forward with some kind of debt resolution program (or not). As Jane has stated to you throughout, we have been ready to help with that process to ensure whatever transition or change is taking place is done within the constructs of the NC and KY rules of professional ethics.

You have now apparently stated that I will not be paid for work I have already performed since I have not signed the proposed employment offer letter sent to me by Oakstone. I do not understand why my relationship with Oakstone has any bearing on my work for LPG - which I have been performing ceaselessly despite the unheavel within the company. I do not know how you would expect any professional to blindly sign a contract with a new company when we have been given contradictory information for over a month about what is occurring with LPG / Oakstone / Phoenix Law / Consumer Law Group. Further, we cannot ethically allow our LPG clients to move over to Oakstone / Phoenix / CLG without first complying with our professional rules of conduct. It is especially concerning in those cases in which Jane has entered a court appearance and we are engaged in active settlement discussions. In doing so, we are risking our professional licenses for a company that does not appear to have enough respect for us to be candid about the changes that are occuring. As the LPG clients cannot be moved to a new company, we are continuing to work on these clients' files under the employ of LPG.- as is also required by our professional rules of conduct; and, frankly, is the right thing to do for these clients who put their trust in LPG for assistance. Both Jane and I have worked fighting for consumers for over a decade and we are passionate about this work.

I will need some clarification before I can make any decisions about moving forward with Oakstone. Also, if I don't have any indication from LPG about my status as an employee and my pay, I will be forced to file for unemployment and/or pursue LPG for violations of state and federal employment laws. I would like some kind of explanation or response regarding these issues by the end of business Monday, March 13. My direct phone number is 828-708-3149.

I have read through four lawsuits (two in federal court, one in CA, and one in TX) that are/were pending recently related to the issues LPG and Oakstone are facing. I will need some assurances that LPG and/or Oakstone are committed to not only the promises they have made to their clients, but also staying within the bounds of lawyers' professional ethics within your geographic areas of practice. I feel that as employees and professionals, we have been more than patient with LPG and these changes. Our lives have been adversely affected due to decisions made by LPG. I am asking for a little respect and professionalism from whomever is in charge at this point.

Sincerely,

Laura Ceva

Juris Doctor, Vermont Law School
Masters of Environmental Law and Policy, Vermont Law School
280 Black Oak Cove Road, Candler, NC 28715
lauraeceva@gmail.com
828-708-3149

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On Tue, Mar 7, 2023 at 10:52 AM Laura Henna < <u>lauraeceva@gmail.com</u> > wrote: Thank you for this. Jane and I will discuss moving forward and get back to you as soon as possible.

On Mon, Mar 6, 2023 at 3:49 PM Mary Harris < mary@guardianprocessing.com wrote: Hi Laura,

Please find attached your offer letter for review. Let Han or myself know if you have any questions - if not, please sign and return to me via email.

Thank you and welcome to the team!

Mary Harris mary@guardianprocessing.com Guardian Processing

--

Laura Ceva

Juris Doctor, Vermont Law School
Masters of Environmental Law and Policy, Vermont Law School
280 Black Oak Cove Road, Candler, NC 28715
lauraeceva@gmail.com
828-708-3149

--

Laura Ceva

Juris Doctor, Vermont Law School
Masters of Environmental Law and Policy, Vermont Law School
280 Black Oak Cove Road, Candler, NC 28715
lauraeceva@gmail.com
828-708-3149

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Jane Dearwester

From: Kent Cobb

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 7:04 PM

To: LPG Counsel

Subject: I just talked to Han - - some good news

Importance: High

Hello everyone,

I just talked with Han (Monday, 3/6/23 approximately 5:55 CST). Some good news:

- 1) The pay from LPG is still coming, though it will hit tomorrow and not today. It will include vacation pay due.
- 2) We are getting paid by Oakstone this Friday. CHECK YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL TONIGHT FOR PAYROLL PAPERWORK -- AND COMPLETE IT TONIGHT AND RETURN IT!
- 3) You will soon be getting a new credit card...so you won't have to worry about fronting money and getting reimbursed.

Hang in there everyone.

Kent Cobb Attorney Licensed in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa & Wyoming The Litigation Practice Group PC 1111 Main Street, #1523 Conway, AR 72033 p: 918-313-6113

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From: Attorney

Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 3:33 PM

To: Jane Dearwester
Cc: Laura Ceva; Legal

Subject: Fw: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

Follow Up Flag: Follow up **Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Jane,

Generally---

Handled by Legal:

If you have trouble locating a client or a lawsuit

- Questions re: Legal Docs
- Assigning Local Counsel
- Questions re Client's file

Handled by Attorney:

- Inquiries regarding litigation
- Other questions that require authority
- Settlement reporting
- Liaison for Local Counsel

Just to avoid the process of determining the appropriate person to tag, most counsel send the message to OR tag both Legal and Attorney and we can handle it from there!

General Counsel

The Litigation Practice Group PC

17542 17th Street, Suite 100 Tustin. CA 92780 tel. (949) 715-0644 fax (949) 315-4332 attorney@lpglaw.com



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From: Legal < legal@lpglaw.com>

Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 11:44 AM **To:** Attorney <attorney@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Fw: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

The Litigation Practice Group PC P.O. Box 513018 Los Angeles, CA 90051

p: 949.715.0644 f: 949.315.4332 www.lpglaw.com



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From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com> Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 11:34 AM

To: Legal < legal@lpglaw.com>
Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: RE: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

Well damn – all this time I thought Jayde was "Legal" – now I'm wondering if I'm tagging the right person in Forth for these random things...?

Can you clarify when I should tag "legal" versus "attorney"?

We are definitely not trying to make things more difficult.

From: Legal < legal@lpglaw.com>

Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 1:43 PM To: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com> Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

I cannot locate the CL in our system. But this is Han. Jayde is over at Attorney@lpglaw.com 😂



The Litigation Practice Group PC P.O. Box 513018 Los Angeles, CA 90051

p: 949.715.0644 f: 949.315.4332 www.lpglaw.com



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From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com> Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 10:19 AM

To: Legal < legal@lpglaw.com> Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: FW: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

Jayde – can y'all find this client somewhere? See info below provided by opp counsel for Discover...

From: Andrea Davis <a davis@glasserlaw.com> Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 12:55 PM To: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: RE: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

Hey there,

Last address we had is **1031 Oak Blossom Way, Whitsett NC 27377**. If you can't find him, I will go ahead and remove your firm from the file. Thank you!

Andrea Davis

Attorney

Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. 580 E. Main St. Ste 600 Norfolk, VA 23510

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From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 12:36 PM
To: Andrea Davis < adavis@glasserlaw.com > Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com >

Subject: RE: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

It's not coming up for me. Do you have more information for Mr. Coleman? Address? DOB?

From: Andrea Davis <a davis@glasserlaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 5:47 PM
To: Jane Dearwester <i ne@lpglaw.com>
Cc: Laura Ceva < lceva@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Glasser 21110905 - Discover Bank v. Barry Coleman, 22CVD3623 Guilford County

Good afternoon Jane,

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Can you please confirm if LPG is still representing Mr. Coleman in this matter? It is post-judgment. Thank you!

Andrea Davis

Attorney

Glasser and Glasser, P.L.C. 580 E. Main St. Ste 600 Norfolk, VA 23510

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EXHIBIT 20

Jane Dearwester

From: Jane Dearwester

Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 2:38 PM

To: Joshua Walthall Subject: RE: FW: Payroll (LPG)

Agreed!!! It has been a stressful past several weeks over here. All of the attorneys are skeptical and distraught about what is going on. It's a mess!

From: Joshua Walthall < jwalthall@bobllaw.com>

Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 2:19 PM **To:** Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: FW: Payroll (LPG)

This is very disconcerting, Jane, not only from an ethics standpoint, but just from a business perspective.

Let me know when you and Jordan are free next week to chat.

Joshua Walthall
Partner | Boerema Blackton, LLP
Professional Licensing Attorney
4801 Glenwood Ave, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27612
919-801-6208 | jwalthall@bobllaw.com
ncprofessionallicensing.com

On Fri, Mar 3, 2023 at 11:01 AM Jane Dearwester < <u>jane@lpglaw.com</u>> wrote:

Josh – this is the latest on our payroll issues. This has happened for the past 3 payroll cycles. Each time so far our pay has been one week late.

From: Dan March < Dan@lpglaw.com > Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 10:40 AM
To: HRBlastAll < HRBlastAll@lpglaw.com >

Subject: Payroll

All -

I am writing to update you regarding payroll that is set for processing on Friday, March 3, 2023. That payroll has again been delayed as we continue to struggle through our dispute with the payment processors that are

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holding client payments. We have two active matters against these processors and had a contempt hearing earlier today. We are at the tail end of the dispute and will have normal deposits resume this coming week. I know the past month has been terrible for all in dealing with delayed payroll processing. The payroll that was set to process today, March 3, will now go out on Monday, March 6. The pay will be received during the day on March 6, prior to the close of business. I am again terribly sorry for this delay and the impact it has caused, and I can assure you that we have done all that we can.

Regards,

Daniel S. March

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EXHIBIT 21

Jane Dearwester

From: Han Trinh

Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 5:39 PM

To: LPG Counsel **Subject:** Re: Payroll 02/03

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Counsel—

UPDATE

Direct deposits from Paychex are currently appearing now! Please be on the lookout!

Kindest Regards,

Han Trinh

Admin

The Litigation Practice Group PC P.O. Box 513018
Los Angeles, CA 90051

p: 949.715.0644 f: 949.315.4332 www.lpglaw.com

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From: Han Trinh

Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 10:17:42 AM **To:** LPG Counsel lpgcounsel@lpglaw.com

Subject: Payroll 02/03

Hello Counsels-

I have been in communication with most of you, but there is an overdue owed explanation to those who have not reached out to upper management regarding 02/03's payroll payment processing error.

First, I would like to apologize for this life-effecting error. We have been doing our best to remedy this situation. I began personally wiring out original payroll amounts to most of you before I was told to immediately stop by our Director of Finance, Kevin Kurka, to halt so that Cecilia would be able to process

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the rest by Paychex. I was told that it was guaranteed to process 110% same day as long as I wired out the rest of the amount to Paychex, but clearly it did not.

If you look at your Paychex account, you will be able to see some movements re your paystub as of today. I am not quite sure as to why it has not posted in your bank account. I was informed that Cecilia has been on the phone with Paychex since this morning. Until further notice, I do not have a clear update that I can provide for you.

Penalty fees accrued during this process will be calculated and sent to those it applies to as soon as we clear this issue.

Please direct all questions regarding this to me.

Kindest Regards,

Han Trinh

Admin

The Litigation Practice Group PC P.O. Box 513018
Los Angeles, CA 90051
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f: 949.315.4332
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EXHIBIT 22

Jane Dearwester

From: Jane Dearwester

Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 1:29 PM

To: Admin

Subject: RE: Update re Payroll

Tony,

I'm ready for our call when you are. Please call my personal cell at 828-713-2599 or LPG mobile #828-301-3681.

From: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com> **Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2023 4:06 AM **To:** Jane Dearwester <jane@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Re: Update re Payroll

Hi Jane -

Paper checks were given out today, those out of the office will receive electronic transfers tomorrow. You should see it between 10:00 am and noon Pacific.

For the remaining issues you raise, I think it is best that we discuss by phone. What is a good time to speak tomorrow afternoon?

Thanks!

The Litigation Practice Group PC

17542 E. 17th St., Ste 100

Tustin, CA 92780

p: 949.715.0644

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From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 4:09 PM

To: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>
Subject: Re: Update re Payroll

Payroll for 2/3/23 has not been received by me or my staff. Please provide an update as soon as possible.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 5, 2023, at 9:43 AM, Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com > wrote:

Tony,

Thanks for clearing up the payroll issue.

I'm reaching out to you directly about this firm transition as you were the first person I spoke with at LPG, and you made me the offer of employment. Can you shed some more light on this transition for the firm and (some of) our clients to Oakstone Law Group? It would have been ideal for us as employees to know about this transition before a mass email was sent out to all of our clients. I understand that sometimes timing isn't ideal in business.

From my reading of Jayde's email, it seems like you and Dan are phasing out of the business. I want to take a moment to thank you both for the opportunity to join LPG. Thank you for bringing me into the LPG fold and making me feel valued as an employee. I sincerely wish you the best of luck with your future endeavors. I'll send Dan a separate email thanking him and wishing him well. It seems like the reason for the transition is the increasing volume of business – I know from our end in NC/KY, we are having lots of incoming cases daily.

I have lots of questions about how and when this transition will happen – and I acknowledge that I don't need to know to intricacies of the transition plan, but I do need to know the legalities of what's happening so I can adjust to make sure the firm is in compliance with NC/KY rules. Is LPG dissolving as a legal entity? Will my compensation and the terms of my employment contract with LPG be honored by Oakstone? Also, most presently, I'm heading to Kentucky on Tuesday (2/7) for a legal conference and to look for office space. Should I still do that? Will those expenses be covered by the firm? I would rather proceed with caution and understanding in light of a corporate transition than to forge ahead with a lack of clarity. (For reference, KY rules require that a law firm has a brick & mortar office in the state – just like NC.)

I am a passionate consumer advocate and I feel like I'm just get started with this platform to have a nationwide reach to help debtors. I have 20 years of experience as an attorney and litigator. I would be interested in helping the firm grow and contributing in any way that I can to ensure its continued success. I have managed my own private law practice before – and have supervised other attorneys and staff. I think I am in a unique position to add value to the firm as it grows. Please let me know if there is opportunity for me to grow into a managing attorney role with the new firm – or some other role that may need to be filled. I am a stickler for ethical compliance – so that is another area where I could assist the firm from within to make sure that we are in legal compliance in all states.

I reached out to Jayde via text on Friday, but have not heard back from her. I'm sure she is inundated with questions as well. I'm also going to reach out to Kevin to ask the question about the expenses for

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the Kentucky trip – and hopefully I'll hear back from somebody tomorrow on that. I will plan to move forward with the Kentucky trip unless someone tells me specifically to stand down.

Sincerely,

Jane Dearwester
Attorney At Law
(licensed in North Carolina and Kentucky)

60 N. Market St. Suite 101 Asheville, NC 28801

Mobile: 828-301-3681 Main: 828-398-0057 Fax: 828-398-4103 www.lpglaw.com

<image001.png>

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From: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 8:46 PM
To: HRBlastAll <HRBlastAll@lpglaw.com>

Subject: Update re Payroll

All -

I am writing to follow up regarding the email from earlier today. As you know, payroll did not process this morning due to an error with Paychex. Our goal was to send out payroll today using alternative means, but that was not completed in time for pay to be available today. Your pay will process on Monday, and an additional stiped for the delay in processing your payroll will also be sent separate from your pay. We apologize for this error and the inconvenience it has caused, and will make sure that pay processes on Monday.

Sincerely,

The Litigation Practice Group PC

17542 E. 17th St., Ste 100

Tustin, CA 92780

p: 949.715.0644

f: 949.315.4332

www.lpglaw.com

<image001.png>

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EXHIBIT 23

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Jane Dearwester

From: Dan March

Sent: Friday, March 3, 2023 10:40 AM

To: HRBlastAll Subject: Payroll

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

All -

I am writing to update you regarding payroll that is set for processing on Friday, March 3, 2023. That payroll has again been delayed as we continue to struggle through our dispute with the payment processors that are holding client payments. We have two active matters against these processors and had a contempt hearing earlier today. We are at the tail end of the dispute and will have normal deposits resume this coming week. I know the past month has been terrible for all in dealing with delayed payroll processing. The payroll that was set to process today, March 3, will now go out on Monday, March 6. The pay will be received during the day on March 6, prior to the close of business. I am again terribly sorry for this delay and the impact it has caused, and I can assure you that we have done all that we can.

Regards,
Daniel S. March

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EXHIBIT 24

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4/8/24, 9:46 AM Gmail - Ruling



Jane Dearwester < janedearwester 19@gmail.com>

Ruling

2 messages

Richard Meier < richardmeier4@gmail.com>

To: "janedearwester19@gmail.com" <janedearwester19@gmail.com>

https://www.occourts.org/tentativerulings/rshermanrulings.htm

9 Validation Partners, LLC vs. The Litigation Practice Group PC 2022-01281911 Plaintiff Validation Partners LLC's Motion to Appoint Receiver and Request for Preliminary Injunct court concludes that plaintiff has established that a receiver should be appointed, consistent witl §564. Plaintiff has shown that it is a creditor of defendant The Litigation Practice Group PC, and property is in danger of being lost, removed or materially injured. Plaintiff also has shown that I receiver is necessary to preserve both defendant's property and plaintiff's rights. Byron Z. Mold the Receiver in this action. The court further orders the issuance of a preliminary injunction suc Litigation Practice Group PC must immediately cease all disbursements of funds from its bank at make any asset transfers pending assumption of control by the Receiver. The required undertak §\$567 and 529 is set at \$10,000.

The Temporary Restraining Order which the court granted on December 21, 2022 is vacated. As Cause re Preliminary Injunction which the court issued on December 21, 2022, the court orders this action, or further court order, defendant The Litigation Practice Group PC may not sell any o Exhibit 21 of plaintiff's exhibits to third parties, and may not spend any amount of money that w having less than \$4,481,960 cash on hand.

Intervenors Debt Validation Fund II, LLC, MC DVI Fund 1, LLC, and MC DVI Fund 2, LLC's Reque:

Prospective Intervenor Stratcap Management, LLC's Motion to Intervene and Stay Action Pending Case is denied. Stratcap's proposed Complaint in Intervention doesn't even identify who its defe Stratcap shown that its proposed Complaint in Intervention satisfies any of the required criteria §5387(b)(1), (2) and (3). Plaintiff and Intervenors allege and have shown that Stratcap purport \$40 million of The Litigation Practice Group's assets for \$1, that The Litigation Practice Group ha 16,000 of its files to another law firm, Oakstone Law Group, and that Diab and The Litigation Pra Stratcap's primary owner and manager, Wesley Thomas, to file the Florida lawsuit which led to S stay of this action. Thus, it does not appear that Stratcap is either joining a plaintiff in claiming complaint, uniting with a defendant in resisting the claims of a plaintiff, or demanding anything a and a defendant, as required for intervention.

Defendants The Litigation Practice Group PC, Daniel March and Tony Diab's Ex Parte Application 1 2023 Hearing Date is deemed moot by virtue of the continuance to March 10, 2023, and is order

A Case Management Conference is also set for today and will go forward.

Plaintiff is ordered to give notice of the rulings unless notice is waived.

Jane Dearwester <janedearwester19@gmail.com>
To: Richard Meier <richardmeier4@gmail.com>

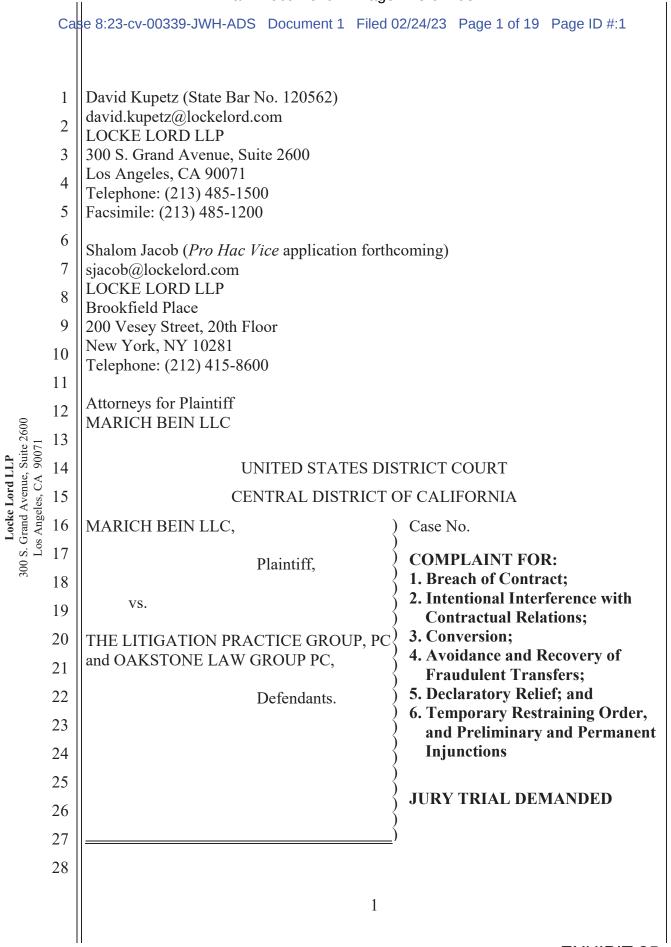
Fri, Mar 10, 2023 at 12:42 PM

Thanks!!
[Quoted text hidden]

~ Jane Dearwester

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EXHIBIT 25



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Plaintiff Marich Bein LLC ("Plaintiff"), demanding a jury trial for any issues triable by a jury, alleges:

NATURE OF THE CASE

- 1. This is an action for damages and injunctive relief by which Plaintiff seeks to enforce, and to enjoin defendants from interfering with, Plaintiff's lawful exercise of rights and privileges granted to it by defendant The Litigation Practice Group PC ("LPG"). LPG bills itself as a law firm that, among other things, assists consumers who may be experiencing financial difficulties in obtaining debt relief. LPG's clients ("Clients") enter legal services agreements pursuant to which they authorize a series of monthly withdrawals to be made from their bank accounts. Plaintiff, which is not a law firm, is in the business of servicing and purchasing accounts receivable.
- 2. This action arises from an ongoing scheme through which LPG and defendant Oakstone Law Group, PC ("Oakstone"), both law firms under the direction of a disbarred lawyer, Tony Diab ("Diab"), are attempting to avoid LPG's contractual agreements with Plaintiff pursuant to which LPG: (a) assigned to Plaintiff the exclusive right to service all of LPG's approximately 50,000 accounts receivable with its Clients, including without limitation the right to withdraw monthly payments from the Clients' bank accounts; and (b) assigned to Plaintiff, for value, the ownership of 15,000 to 20,000 of such accounts receivable.
- In furtherance of the scheme, on information and belief, LPG has 3. purported to, *inter alia*: (a) terminate contracts with at least 25,000 of its Clients; (b) referred and transferred, for no or inadequate consideration, at least 15,000 of those Clients to Oakstone (a newly organized law firm that is, on information and belief, LPG's alter ego)¹; (c) assisted Oakstone in entering into "new" contracts with the Clients; (d) notified Plaintiff that Plaintiff's rights to the make withdrawals from the

On information and belief, LPG is referring and transferring other Clients to other law firms.

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Clients' bank accounts has been terminated; (e) terminated Plaintiff's access to data necessary to allow Plaintiff to fully exercise the rights granted to it, and to which data Plaintiff is contractually entitled; and (f) disavowed LPG's agreements with Plaintiff.

- 4. Oakstone has threatened to withdraw payments itself from Clients' accounts, an action which, if carried out, would contravene Plaintiff's contractual rights and result in double withdrawing from such accounts by Oakstone. Such actions would thus not only interfere with Plaintiff's ability to exercise the rights it obtained from LPG but, of equal importance, would also impose hardships on the Clients, many of whom are, as evidenced by their retention of LPG in the first instance, already financially stressed. In addition to the obvious deleterious financial consequences, such double-withdrawals will also result in demands for refunds from the Clients, the likely cancellation of their legal services agreements, and a withdrawal of any authorization by them to withdraw funds from their bank accounts.
- 5. Moreover, Oakstone has sent cease and desist letters to one or more banks, notifying such banks of the above-described actions and demanding that such banks cease and desist from processing debits on the Clients' bank *unless* those debits have been initiated by Oakstone or others acting at Oakstone's direction. Indeed, in at least one instance, Oakstone has also filed a lawsuit against a bank, BankUnited, N.A. ("BankUnited"), seeking temporary and permanent injunctive relief barring BankUnited from processing withdrawals on the Clients' bank accounts other than those consented to by Oakstone. Plaintiff was not made a party to that suit, and the same appears to reflect an effort by Oakstone to, in effect, adjudicate Plaintiff's rights in and to the said accounts without providing any advance notice to Plaintiff, or any opportunity to be heard, in opposition.
- 6. The wrongful coordinated actions of LPG and Oakstone are causing damage, including irreparable damage, to Plaintiff. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law by which it may obtain redress for the harm caused by LPG and Oakstone's actions. Therefore, Plaintiff seeks recovery of damages and this Court's declaration of

Plaintiff's contractual rights and entry of orders enjoining Defendants from interfering with Plaintiff's exercise of such rights.

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PARTIES

- 7. Plaintiff is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the state of New York. Plaintiff's sole member is Hershy Deutsch. He is a citizen and resident of the state of New Jersey. Plaintiff's principal place of business is located in the state of New York.
- 8. Defendant LPG is a corporation organized under the laws of the state of California. According to the records of the California Secretary of State, LPG's principal place of business is located in Tustin, California. Daniel S. March ("March") is LPG's Director, CEO, CFO and Secretary. LPG's website and its agreements with Plaintiff further state that March is LPG's Managing Shareholder.
- 9. Defendant Oakstone is a newly formed corporation organized under the laws of the state of California. Oakstone's initial filing with the California Secretary of State was made on January 9, 2023. Oakstone's principal place of business is in La Jolla, California.
- 10. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this Complaint, LPG and Oakstone were co-conspirators, agents, servants, employees, alter egos, successors-in-interest, subsidiaries, affiliated companies or corporations, and joint ventures of each other, and were, as such, acting within the course, scope, and authority of each other. Further, on information and belief, each of LPG and Oakstone acted in concert with, and with the consent of, each other, and each of them ratified or agreed to accept the benefits of the conduct of the other.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. For purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1332, Plaintiff is a citizen of the state of New Jersey, and defendants are citizens of the state of California. The matter in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

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- 12. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391. A substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims stated herein occurred at LPG's office in Tustin, California, within this judicial district.
- Defendants, both California corporations with their principal places of 13. business in such state, are subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction with respect to this action.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 14. LPG is a law firm that claims to specialize in resolution of consumer debt. Although it claims otherwise, LPG is, in reality, run entirely by Diab, a former attorney who has been disbarred in two states following disciplinary proceedings for serious ethics violations, including stealing client funds and forging the signature of a judge.
- 15. On information and belief, at times relevant to this complaint, LPG had more than 50,000 active client accounts nationwide.
- On or about September 18, 2022, Plaintiff and LPG entered into an 16. Assignment of Servicing Rights ("Assignment"), pursuant to which LPG agreed, inter alia, as follows:

Article I. ASSIGNMENT

Section I.1 Assignment of Servicing Rights. [LPG], by these presents does hereby presently, unconditionally, absolutely and irrevocably assign, transfer, convey and set over to [Plaintiff] (it being intended by [LPG] that such assignments constitute present, absolute and unconditional assignments and not assignments for additional security only, but such assignment shall constitute security for [LPG]'s obligations to [Plaintiff] or its affiliates), all of [LPG]'s right, title and interest in and to the Servicing Rights, including, without limitation, any right of [LPG] or e 8:23-cv-00339-JWH-ADS Document 1 Filed 02/24/23 Page 6 of 19 Page ID #:6

any of its affiliates (whether such rights are currently existing or arising in the future) to service collection of subscription fees, return payment fees, or any other fee or payment resulting from any Customer's engagement with [LPG] or any of its affiliates, or give notices, sue for payment under the Customer contracts or to take any action at law or in equity relating to the Customer contracts. Article II. SERVICING OF CONTRACTS Section I.2 [sic] Appointment as Third-Party

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27 28 Servicer. ... [LPG] hereby retains [Plaintiff] to act as thirdparty [Plaintiff] for the Receivables

Section I.3 [sic] Servicing of Receivables. . . . [LPG] agrees to provide [Plaintiff] and its subcontractors with such assistance in the servicing, collection and administration of any Receivable as may be requested by [Plaintiff] from time to time.

Section I.4 [sic] Limited Power of Attorney. [LPG] hereby irrevocably appoints and empowers [Plaintiff] as [LPG]'s true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, to endorse and promptly deposit on [LPG]'s behalf any checks or other instruments made payable to [LPG] and submitted by a Customer as payment on any Receivable, and to take any other action relating to the Receivables in [LPG]'s name and place that [Plaintiff] deems advisable and consistent with the terms of this Agreement. This power of attorney shall be deemed to a right coupled with an interest.

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* * *

ARTICLE III. OBLIGATIONS OF MERCHANT

Section III.1 Access to All Digital Records,

Databases, and Applications. [LPG] shall provide [Plaintiff] any information requested by [Plaintiff] with respect to its

Customers and the Customer contracts. At all times,

[Plaintiff] must have unfettered access to all software applications used by [LPG], including, but not limited to,

Debt Pay Pro, Snowflake, or any other databases used by

[LPG] in its ordinary course of business.

* *

Section III.3 No Impairment. [LPG] will not take any action (including placing or allowing placement of a lien or security interest on any Purchased Receivable) or make any omission that has, individually or in the aggregate, an adverse effect on any Purchased Receivable or on [Plaintiff]'s ability to collect on any Purchased Receivable.

Section III.4 Amounts Received. . . . [LPG] shall not in any way encourage or cause any proceeds to be paid, processed, settled or delivered to any person or account other than the [Plaintiff]'s account, and shall take all affirmative steps at its expense and as necessary or appropriate to prevent any such occurrence from recurring. [LPG] is prohibited from instructing any Customer to pay [LPG] or any other third party on a Receivable or otherwise suggest that Customer may make a payment to [LPG] or any other third party instead of paying [Plaintiff] to satisfy its payment obligation.

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ARTICLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Section I.7 [sic] Term and Termination. This Assignment shall commence on [September 19, 2022] and shall continue in full force and effect, until released by [Plaintiff]. [LPG] may terminate this Assignment at any time and for any reason provided that the total amount of Purchased Receivables held by [Plaintiff] and its affiliates are less than $1,000,000.00.[^2]$

Section VI.1[sic] Exclusivity. [LPG]understands and agrees that the relationship set forth in this Assignment is exclusive. [LPG] forgoes any right to contract with other parties for the same or similar services provided by [Plaintiff] under this Assignment.

(Underscoring and bolding in original.)

- Since entering into the Assignment, Plaintiff has exercised the rights 17. granted to it therein and has complied with the terms thereof.
- In addition to the *Assignment*, on or about August 18, September 21, 18. October 6 and November 14, 2022, in return for the payment of amounts totaling in excess of \$10,000,000, LPG entered into Accounts Receivable Purchase Agreements ("Agreements") pursuant to which LPG sold, assigned, transferred and delivered to Plaintiff all of LPG's right, title and interest in and to certain of LPG's client accounts ("Purchased Accounts"), totaling between 15,000 and 20,000 accounts. Each of the Agreements was executed on behalf of LPG by Daniel S. March as Managing Shareholder and also by Diab.

² The total amount of Purchased Receivables now held by Plaintiff is in excess of \$1,000,000.00.

e 8:23-cv-00339-JWH-ADS Document 1 Filed 02/24/23 Page 9 of 19 Page ID #:9

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- 19. In the Agreements, LPG warranted that:
 - LPG was conveying to Plaintiff good, valid, transferable and A. marketable title to all of the Purchased Accounts, free and clear of all liens; and
 - LPG's delivery of the Purchased Accounts to Plaintiff would not В. conflict with, result in any violation of, or default under, or give rise to a right of termination or modification of any obligation, or loss of any benefit, under any contract to which LPG is a party, including any assigned contract.
- 20. In the *Agreements*, LPG further agreed:
 - To indemnify and hold Plaintiff harmless against, inter alia, all A. claims, losses, liabilities, damages, deficiencies, diminutions in value, and costs sustained by Plaintiff as a result of, arising out of, or in connection with any inaccuracy in or breach of any representation or warranty or any breach or non-fulfillment of any obligation to be performed by LPG under its agreements with Plaintiff;
 - В. The Agreements would be binding upon Plaintiff and Plaintiff's successors and permitted assigns;
 - C. Neither the *Agreements* nor any rights or obligations of a party thereto shall be assigned, unless to an affiliate of the assigning party, without the prior written consent of the other party; and
 - D. Irreparable damage would occur if any provision of the Agreements was not performed in accordance with the terms thereof and that the parties would be entitled to specific performance thereof, in addition to any other remedy to which they are entitled under the Agreements, at law or in equity.

- 21. In an abundance of caution, Plaintiff has perfected any security interests under its agreements with LPG by filing appropriate UCC financing statements.

 However, such perfection is unnecessary since, under the Agreements, LPG sold the Purchased Accounts to Plaintiff.
 - 22. Based on the foregoing agreements, and the promises, covenants, representations and warranties therein contained, and notwithstanding that the Purchased Accounts are Plaintiff's property, Plaintiff has the right to service all of LPG's accounts and make withdrawals from all of LPG's Clients.

LPG and Oakstone Act To Contravene Plaintiff's Rights

- 23. For months after LPG's and Plaintiff's entry into the above described *Assignment* and *Agreements*, Plaintiff serviced the Clients' accounts, using data in LPG's software systems and processing withdrawals from the Clients' bank accounts, all in accordance with the parties' contractual arrangements and without objection from LPG.
- 24. However, in recent weeks LPG and Oakstone have taken actions in derogation of Plaintiff's rights as aforesaid.
- 25. On or about February 2, 2023, LPG implemented changes to its software systems so as to completely deny Plaintiff access thereto. Notwithstanding Plaintiff's repeated protests about this breach of LPG's obligation to provide "unfettered access," LPG has not restored such access. The lack of such access impairs Plaintiff's ability to accurately service the Clients' accounts.
- 26. On or about February 6, 2023, Plaintiff received an unsigned email purporting to be from legal@lpglaw.com directing Plaintiff to cease and desist from processing payments on any of the Clients' accounts. The email purports to disavow the *Assignment*, yet offers to discuss resolution of "this dispute." *See* Exhibit A annexed hereto.
- 27. On information and belief, at about the same time, most of LPG's employees were discharged from its employ, and some, including at least two lawyers,

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- became employees of Oakstone, which had been formed only one month earlier.
- 28. On February 10, 2023, Oakstone, through counsel, emailed Plaintiff a copy of a cease and desist letter that such counsel had sent to BankUnited ("BankUnited Letter"). See Exhibit B annexed hereto. The BankUnited Letter states that: (a) Oakstone has retained certain accounts from LPG and LPG has transferred its practice to Oakstone; and (b) Oakstone terminated BankUnited's "relationship" with those accounts on or about February 2, 2023, and has withdrawn any authorization to process automatic withdrawals from any customer account.
- 29. The Assignment prohibits LPG from taking the actions described in the BankUnited Letter.
- 30. The BankUnited Letter also enclosed a 300 page listing of clients, with bank account numbers and bank routing numbers (which list is not included in Exhibit B due to the sensitive nature of the information therein). The list includes thousands of accounts that are Purchased Accounts and, hence, Plaintiff's property.
- 31. On February 16, 2023, Oakstone, through counsel, initiated an action (the "BankUnited Action") against BankUnited in the District Court of Dallas County, Texas, 192nd Judicial District, under Cause No. DC-23-02116, seeking, among other things, a temporary restraining order and temporary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining BankUnited from processing debits on the accounts on the list enclosed with the BankUnited Letter. A copy of Oakstone's petition is annexed hereto as Exhibit C ("Petition").
- 32. According to the *Petition*, on or about January 11, 2023, two days after Oakstone was formed, an alleged secured creditor named PECC Corporation ("PECC") exercised remedies under an alleged promissory note and security interest. No detail was provided concerning the debt owed to PECC or the manner in which its remedies were exercised. The Petition further asserted that LPG terminated its agreements with its clients, an action prohibited by the *Assignment*, and referred such clients to Oakstone, which is described, notwithstanding that it only recently came

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into existence, as a consumer protection law firm capable of servicing 15,000 customers. Oakstone claims to have entered new legal service agreements with the 15,000 clients and to have the exclusive authority to process payments from those clients.

33. Although there is no express statement in the *Petition* that BankUnited is processing withdrawals for Plaintiff, it is clear that Oakstone and LPG believe that to be the case. Interestingly, however, and despite the fact that equitable relief sought in the *Petition* would seriously impair, if not completely abrogate, Plaintiff's rights under the aforesaid agreements, Oakstone failed to name Plaintiff in the *Petition*, thus depriving Plaintiff with advance notice of its filing or a contemporaneous opportunity to be heard in connection therewith.

LPG and Oakstone are Alter Egos or Oakstone is a Mere Continuation of LPG

- 34. On information and belief, the LPG-Oakstone transaction was a sham transaction, put together for no consideration between affiliated or alter ego parties, for the sole purpose of attempting to divest Plaintiff of its exclusive rights to service LPG's accounts and Plaintiff's ownership of the Purchased Accounts, accounts for which Plaintiff paid in excess of \$10,000,000.
 - 35. Prior to January 9, 2023, Oakstone did not exist.
- On information and belief, at the time that the LPG-Oakstone transaction 36. took place, allegedly on January 11, 2023, Oakstone had no ability to provide any types of legal services to 15,000 clients, much less specialized consumer protection legal services.
- 37. On information and belief, much of LPG's staff, including at least two lawyers, have been transferred to Oakstone.
- 38. On information and belief, Diab manages Oakstone's financial affairs, just as he has been doing for LPG.
- 39. Although the California Secretary of State's records indicate that Daniel S. March is the only officer of LPG, and the Assignment and Agreements were signed

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- by March as "Managing Shareholder," Plaintiff's dealings with LPG have been with Diab (excepting operations-related communications that have been with lower level employees).
- 40. From Plaintiff's recent communications with Diab, Plaintiff believes that Diab directs Oakstone's operations. Indeed, there may not be any other available representative with whom an interested party can communicate. Plaintiff's counsel asked Oakstone's counsel for the name of an Oakstone representative, and counsel professed not to recall the name of any such individual. Further, Oakstone's articles of incorporation identify CT Corporation System, not an individual, as Oakstone's registered agent, and Oakstone has yet to file an initial statement of information with the California Secretary of State.
- 41. Additionally, until approximately one week ago, Oakstone appeared to have only a single attorney, Jayde Trinh, a recent law school graduate and LPG attorney whose name remained on LPG's website.
- 42. As of February 19, 2023, Oakstone's website identified a single attorney, Scott J. Eadie, as its "head attorney." LPG's website also has a page describing Mr. Eadie. On information and belief, Mr. Eadie has become affiliated with LPG and Oakstone only very recently. On information and belief, for approximately 40 years Mr. Eadie has practiced worker's compensation law at his own law firm, which is still in operation. Mr. Eadie does not appear to have the experience needed to provide consumer protection legal representation to 15,000 consumers located across the United States, much less the background to handle such a firm's financial affairs.
- Plaintiff's investigation of this matter is incomplete and is continuing. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend this Complaint to assert claims should circumstances so warrant.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

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(Breach of Contract– Against both Defendants)

Assignment and the Agreements by engaging in the conduct described above and such

agreements with customers and inducing such customers to entering into new legal

services agreements with Oakstone; (c) attempting to terminate Plaintiff's ability to

make withdrawals from customer accounts; (d) causing withdrawals from customer

and (e) sending the BankUnited Letter and filing the Petition in an attempt to divert

damaged. While the full amount of Plaintiff's damages is presently unknown,

Plaintiff is entitled to recover such sums, together with interest thereon at the

accounts to be made for amounts for which only Plaintiff was authorized to withdraw;

As a result of this conduct, Plaintiff has been and will continue to be

Defendants, in engaging in the above-described conduct, are guilty of

oppression, fraud and/or malice, and were acting with willful and conscious disregard

Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff is also entitled to a temporary

restraining order, and preliminary and permanent injunctions commanding Defendants

to provide Plaintiff unfettered access to all of LPG's and Oakstone's software systems

containing non-privileged client or customer data and restraining and enjoining

Defendants, and anyone acting in concert with either of them, and all such parties'

of the rights of Plaintiff. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages against

Defendants in an amount appropriate to properly punish those defendants for their

Defendants, acting in concert and/or as alter egos, have breached the

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44. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 43 hereof as if fully set forth herein

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additional claims as may hereafter be proven, including but not limited to: (a) denying Plaintiff unfettered access to LPG's software systems; (b) terminating legal services

revenue from Plaintiff.

maximum legal rate according to the proofs.

conduct and to deter similar future conduct.

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agents, servants, employees, and other persons or entities acting on their behalf, or purportedly acting on their behalf, from any transfer of any customer and client accounts, termination of any agreements with customers and clients, withdrawals from any customer or client accounts, and from taking any actions that by design or effect may dissuade or prevent any person from processing withdrawals submitted by or on behalf of Plaintiff.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations - Against Oakstone)

- 49. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 48 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
- 50. As alleged herein, Plaintiff had and has valid existing contracts with LPG and has performed in accordance with such contracts.
- 51. Oakstone, as part of its business relationship with LPG, knew of the contracts between Plaintiff and LPG.
- 52. Oakstone, with the intent of disrupting and/or destroying the contracts between Plaintiff and LPG, engaged in the conduct described herein and such additional conduct as may hereafter be proven, including but not limited to: (a) participating in and assisting LPG in its alleged termination of legal services agreements with customers and entering into new legal services agreements with them; (b) causing withdrawals to be made from such customer accounts for amounts which only Plaintiff was authorized to withdraw; (c) sending the BankUnited Letter and filing the *Petition* in an attempt to diverting revenue from Plaintiff.
- 53. Oakstone's conduct was willful and in bad faith and intended to disrupt the performance of LPG's obligations under the contracts to prevent Plaintiff from recovering the monies it is owed so that LPG and Oakstone could keep the revenue for their own benefit.
- 54. As a result of this conduct, Plaintiff has been and will continue to be damaged. The full amount of Plaintiff's damages is presently unknown. Plaintiff is

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entitled to recover such sums, together with interest thereon at the maximum legal rate according to the proofs.

55. Oakstone, in engaging in the above-described conduct, is guilty of oppression, fraud and/or malice, and was acting with willful and conscious disregard of the rights of Plaintiff. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages against Oakstone in an amount appropriate to properly punish such defendant for its conduct and to deter similar future conduct.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Conversion – Against both Defendants)

- 56. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 55 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
- 57. Defendants have intentionally and substantially interfered with Plaintiff's property and rights without permission.
- 58. Defendants without authority intentionally deprived Plaintiff of possession and access to its personal property.
- 59. Defendants have wrongfully exercised dominion over property of Plaintiff.
- 60. Defendants have assumed control over Plaintiff's property and have precluded Plaintiff from access to Plaintiff's property.
- As a result of this conduct, Plaintiff has been and continues to be 61. damaged. The full amount of Plaintiff's damages is presently unknown. Plaintiff is entitled to recover such sums, together with interest thereon at the maximum legal rate according to the proofs.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Avoidance and Recovery of Fraudulent Transfers – Against Oakstone)

- 62. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 61 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
 - Plaintiff is a creditor of LPG. 63.

LPG transferred assets to Oakstone with actual intent to hinder, delay and

LPG transferred assets to Oakstone without receiving a reasonably

equivalent value in exchange for such transfer, and was engaged or about to engage in

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defraud its creditors.

- a business or transaction for which the remaining assets or LPG were unreasonably small in relation to the business or transaction, and/or intended to incur, or believed or reasonably should have believed that it would incur, debts beyond LPG's ability to pay as they became due.
 - 66. Plaintiff was a creditor of LPG before LPG transferred assets to Oakstone.
 - 67. LPG transferred assets to Oakstone without receiving reasonably equivalent value in exchange for the transfer and LPG was insolvent at the time of the transfer or became insolvent as a result of the transfer.
 - 68. Plaintiff is entitled to avoidance of the transfer of LPG's assets to Oakstone and recovery of the assets for the benefit of Plaintiff.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Declaratory Relief – Against both Defendants)

- 69. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 68 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
- 70. An actual conflict has arisen and now exists between Plaintiff and Defendants concerning Plaintiff's contractual rights and Defendants' interference with Plaintiff's rights.
- 71. Plaintiff desires a judicial determination and declaration of the rights of the parties. Such a determination is appropriate at this time so that Plaintiff may determine its rights and duties.
 - 72. Plaintiff seeks damages and other relief as prayed.

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SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Temporary Restraining Order, and Preliminary and Permanent Injunctions -**Against Both Defendants**)

- 73. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 72 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
- 74. Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff is also entitled to a temporary restraining order, and preliminary injunction and a permanent injunctions commanding Defendants to provide Plaintiff unfettered access to all of LPG's and Oakstone's software systems containing non-privileged client or customer data and restraining and enjoining Defendants, and anyone acting in concert with either of them, and all such parties' agents, servants, employees, and other persons or entities acting on their behalf, or purportedly acting on their behalf, from any transfer of any customer and client accounts, termination of any agreements with customers and clients, withdrawals from any customer or client accounts, and from taking any actions that by design or effect may dissuade or prevent any person from processing withdrawals submitted by or on behalf of Plaintiff.
- 75. Plaintiff will be irreparably harmed if a temporary restraining order and the injunctions are not issued as set forth above.
- Plaintiff is likely to and will succeed on the merits of Plaintiff's claims in 76. this action.
- 77. The equities in this action favor the granting of injunctive relief in Plaintiff's favor and the injunction is in the public interest.
- 78. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law as to future damages if the requested injunction is not issued.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

For judgment in favor of Plaintiff on all causes of action; 1.

8:23-cv-00339-JWH-ADS Document 1 Filed 02/24/23 Page 19 of 19 Page ID #:19 For the temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent 1 2. 2 injunctive relief requested in this Complaint; 3 For general damages, plus interest, according to the proofs at trial; 3. 4 For lost profits according to the proofs at trial; 4. 5 For punitive damages according to the proofs at trial; 5. 6 6. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein to the extent 7 permitted by statute or contract; 8 For prejudgment interest; and 7. 9 For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper. 10 Dated: February 24, 2023 11 Respectfully submitted, 12 LOCKE LORD LLP 300 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 2600 Los Angeles, CA 90071 13 Locke Lord LLP 14 By: /s/ David Kupetz David Kupetz 15 Attorneys for Plaintiff MARICH BEIN LLC 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 19 132011141v.1

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EXHIBIT 26

Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 148 of 195

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	OSTERGAR LATTIN JULANDER LLP Treg A. Julander (State Bar No. 174759) Allen C. Ostergar III (State Bar No. 166411) 9110 Irvine Center Drive Irvine, CA 92618 Telephone: 949-305-4590 Facsimile: 949-305-4591 Attorney for Plaintiff NAZ II HOLDING, LLC	
8	IN THE UNITED STAT	TES DISTRICT COURT
9	FOR THE CENTRAL DIS	STRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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11	NAZ II HOLDING, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company,	Case No.: 8:23-cv-00030
12	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR:
13	VS.	1. INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE WITH CONTRACTUAL
141516	THE LITIGATION PRACTICE GROUP PC; TONY DIAB; VALIDATION PARTNERS, LLC and DOES 1-10, inclusive,	RELATIONS; 2. INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE; 3. UNFAIR COMPETITION IN
17	Defendants.	VIOLATION OF CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE §§ 17200, <i>ET SEQ</i> .; 4. CONVERSION
18 19		5. MONEY HAD AND RECEIVED6. ACCOUNTS STATED7. UNJUST ENRICHMENT
20		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
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23	Plaintiff Naz II Holding, LLC ("Pla	intiff"), demanding a jury trial for any
24	issue triable by a jury, alleges:	
25	NATURE O	F THE CASE
26	1. This action arises from an ongoing scheme in which Defendant The	
27	Litigation Practice Group PC ("LPG"), under the direction of a disbarred and illegally	
28	practicing lawyer, Defendant Tony Diab, (collectively with DOES 1-10, the "LPG	
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	COMP	PLAINT

Defendants"), is misappropriating millions of dollars of investments Plaintiff made in Defendants' debt resolution legal services business.

- 2. Plaintiff is one of the investor-clients of Defendant Validation Partners, LLC ("VP"). VP's main purpose is to raise capital for LPG's debt resolution practice. To do so, VP acts as a factor: it purchases accounts receivable based on the legal fees owed to LPG by its clients, who are generally individual consumers with significant credit card or other consumer debt. In some instances, LPG directly assigns its accounts receivable to VP. In other instances, LPG pays a portion of the fees from each client account to "Marketing Affiliates" in exchange for the Marketing Affiliates' services in identifying consumer clients for LPG to represent. The Marketing Affiliates then assign to VP their rights to receive these payments from LPG. In both instances, LPG is contractually obligated to pay the fees it receives from its clients to VP.
- 3. VP acquires the accounts receivable with funds solicited from investors like Plaintiff. Plaintiff invested in VP through two separate agreements in 2021 and 2022. Under these agreements, VP is obligated to repay Plaintiff's principal plus a return on investment out of payments it receives from LPG. As the LPG Defendants know, if LPG does not pay VP, VP cannot pay Plaintiff.
- 4. In or about June 2022, LPG, at the direction of Diab, abruptly stopped paying VP. LPG was not unable to pay. Indeed, at least as recently as October 2022, its revenue from fees paid by its clients was stable and substantially exceeded its operating costs. Rather, LPG began rapidly diverting client-fee revenue and other assets to third parties in what appears to be an effort by Diab to transfer LPG's tens of thousands of revenue-generating client accounts to another entity that has no obligations to VP or VP's investors, thus enabling Diab to expropriate the lion's share of proceeds from LPG's lucrative debt resolution business.

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	COMPLAINT

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Naz II Holding, LLC is a Nevada limited liability company with its principal place of business in Las Vegas, Nevada. Plaintiff's sole member is the Naz II Family Trust, a trust organized under Nevada law. The trustee of the Naz II Family Trust is Premier Trust, Inc., a Nevada corporation with headquarters in Las Vegas, Nevada. Accordingly, Plaintiff is a citizen of Nevada.
- 6. On information and belief, defendant Litigation Practice Group PC ("LPG") is a California professional corporation with its principal place of business in Tustin, California. LPG is a law firm specializing in resolution of consumer debt. It claims it is an elite law firm dedicated to the practice of law. In reality, LPG is run entirely by Tony Diab, a former attorney now disbarred in two states following disciplinary proceedings for serious ethics violations, including stealing client funds and forging the signature of a judge. As alleged herein, the only known licensed attorney currently employed at LPG is nothing more than a figurehead who Diab impersonates to surreptitiously engage in the unauthorized practice of law.
- 7. On information and belief, Defendant Tony Diab is an individual residing in Orange County, California. Diab was disbarred from the practice of law in the state of California under Cal. Bar No. 277343 on January 10, 2020 for several ethics violations relating to Diab's fraudulent diversion a client's \$375,000 settlement payment into his own personal banking account—a scheme that involved his forging the signatures of a judge in 2016. Diab is also disbarred from the practice of law in Nevada as of January 14, 2019 for ethics violations related to the same incident under Nevada Bar No. 12954.
- 8. On information and belief, Defendant Validation Partners, LLC ("VP") is a Florida limited liability company with its principal place of business in Florida. VP's members are Stratcap Management, LLC ("Stratcap"), a California/Wyoming limited liability company, and Goldtone Ventures, LLC ("Goldtone"), a Florida limited liability company. Stratcap's members are Wes Thomas, a California

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COMPLAINT

resident, and BAE Enterprises, Inc., a Wyoming corporation with principal place of business in Wyoming. Goldtone's members are Overtone Ventures Florida, Inc., a

Florida corporation with principal place of business in Florida, Longclaw, Inc., a

Florida corporation with principal place of business in Florida, and California

residents Rodney Squires and Michael Loughton, who are natural persons.

Accordingly, VP is a citizen of California, Florida, and Wyoming.

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- 9. Plaintiff sues Defendants DOES 1 through 10 under fictitious names. Their true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise are unknown to Plaintiff. When Plaintiff ascertains their true names and capacities, it will amend the Complaint to insert the true name and capacity of each fictitiously-named defendant. On information and belief, each fictitiously named defendant is legally responsible in some manner for the occurrences alleged in this Complaint, and those defendants directly and proximately caused Plaintiff's damages.
- 10. On information and belief, at all times relevant to this Complaint, the LPG Defendants, and each of them, were the co-conspirators, agents, servants, employees, alter egos, successors-in-interest, subsidiaries, affiliated companies or corporations, and joint ventures of the other LPG Defendants, and were, as such, acting within the course, scope, and authority of each other LPG Defendant. Plaintiff further alleges on information and belief that each of the LPG Defendants acted in concert with, and with the consent of, each of the other LPG Defendants, and that each of the LPG Defendants ratified or agreed to accept the benefits of the conduct of each of the LPG Defendants.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter based on diversity of citizenship under 28 U.S.C. § 1332. Plaintiff is a citizen of Nevada while Defendants are citizens of California, Wyoming, and/or Florida. The amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds the sum of \$75,000.

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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

LPG's Investment Structure

- 14. On information and belief, VP commenced business in 2021 with the primary purpose of providing financing for LPG's debt resolution business.
- 15. On information and belief, LPG has traditionally obtained clients with the assistance of various Marketing Affiliates. These Marketing Affiliates locate qualified consumers who have been the victim of predatory lending or who otherwise are subject to claims of sizeable debt that are not legally valid under applicable law.
- 16. On information and belief, LPG takes on these consumers as clients and compensates the Marketing Affiliates for their services by paying them a portion of the fees LPG earns in the debt resolution process.
- 17. On information and belief, LPG has approximately 50,000 active client accounts nationwide, although, as discussed further below, Diab is actively causing these accounts to be transferred to third party entities.
- 18. Upon information and belief, VP finances the relationship between the Marketing Affiliates and LPG by providing factoring services to the Marketing Affiliates. Specifically, VP purchases at discounted rates the Marketing Affiliates' accounts receivable owed to them by LPG. In this way, the Marketing Affiliates

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COMPLAINT

assign to VP their rights to receive these payments from LPG. On information and belief, LPG acknowledged the assignment of these accounts receivable to VP and, for a time, paid VP directly in accordance with the Marketing Affiliates' assignment of the accounts receivable to VP.

19. VP obtains the funds with which to finance LPG and the Marketing Affiliates operation from investors such as Plaintiff. VP then uses the payments from LPG—ultimately based on fees paid by LPG's clients—to repay the investors' principal plus a contractually agreed return.

<u>Plaintiff's First Investment</u>

- 20. On or around September 2021, VP's CEO, Russ Squires, and its one of its managers, Gary DePue, approached Plaintiff's agent, Chris Frankian, on behalf of VP to solicit Plaintiff's investment in Defendants' debt resolution business. Squires and DePue explained that the return on Plaintiff's investment would be based on a portion of the fees generated by LPG's practice, the rights to which VP had acquired or would acquire through factoring the Marketing Affiliates accounts receivable. Squires and DePue told Frankian that the investments made by VP's investors in LPG's debt resolution practice were performing well, and Plaintiff's investment would result in a favorable return. On October 4, 2021, in reliance on these representations, Plaintiff agreed to invest in VP pursuant to the terms of a written contract ("Agreement No. 1"), attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- 21. Agreement No. 1 provides for Plaintiff to invest \$2,000,000 with VP in exchange for VP's obligation to repay Plaintiff's principal of \$2,000,000 plus a 20 percent return over a series of 12 monthly payments, for a total of \$2,400,000. Accordingly, Plaintiff paid VP \$2,000,000 by wire transfer on or about October 4, 2021.
- 22. The LPG Defendants had actual knowledge and notice of Plaintiff's investment under Agreement No. 1. At the time of execution of Agreement No. 1, Wes Thomas was both LPG's Chief Financial Officer, a close associate of Diab, and

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COMPLAINT

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a member of Stratcap, one of VP's owners. Thomas was thus involved in, and knowledgeable about, the activities of both companies. In addition, Frankian specifically told Thomas that Plaintiff would be investing in VP and LPG's business.

- 23. The LPG Defendants also knew that VP's ability to repay Plaintiff depended on LPG properly remitting the fees received from its clients to VP in accordance with the its obligations to Marketing Affiliates that had been assigned to VP. Indeed, on information and belief, LPG expressly recognized each assignment and confirmed that VP was entitled to payment as a result.
- 24. Plaintiff received a total of nine payments in accordance with the pay schedule outlined in Agreement No. 1, with the first payment in October 2021 and the last in June 2022. These nine payments amounted to \$2,034,000, leaving a shortfall of \$366,000.

Plaintiff's Second Investment

- 25. On or around March 2022, representatives of VP again approached Frankian requesting that Plaintiff make a second investment into LPG's debt resolution practice. At that time, VP had not yet defaulted on its payments to Plaintiff under Agreement No. 1. However, Plaintiff was hesitant to make a second investment. To "sweeten the deal," VP told Frankian the terms of Plaintiff's second investment would be more favorable. On a phone call on or around February or March 2022, Squires informed Frankian that the terms of the second investment deal would defer payment by 90 days, but would pay a greater return of 25 percent.
- 26. In reliance on these representations, Plaintiff executed Agreement No. 2, attached hereto as **Exhibit B** on or around March 9, 2022. The overall structure of Agreement No. 2 was substantially similar to Agreement No. 1, except that, consistent with the above negotiations, VP's first payment was deferred 90 days and Plaintiff received a contractual rate of return of 25 percent. Plaintiff invested \$2,500,000 and was therefore owed a total of \$3,125,000.

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COMPLAINT	

- 27. The LPG Defendants had actual knowledge of Plaintiff's investment under Agreement No. 2. At the time of execution of Agreement No. 2, Thomas was both LPG's CFO, a close associate of Diab, and a member of Stratcap, one of VP's owners. Thomas was thus involved in, and knowledgeable about, the activities of both companies. In addition, Frankian specifically told Thomas that Plaintiff would be investing in VP and LPG's business.
- 28. The LPG Defendants also knew that VP's ability to repay Plaintiff depended on LPG properly remitting the fees received from its clients to VP in accordance with the its obligations to Marketing Affiliates that had been assigned to VP. Indeed, on information and belief, LPG expressly recognized each assignment and confirmed that VP was entitled to payment as a result.
- 29. Plaintiff received a single payment of \$300,000 under Agreement No. 2 on June 22, 2022, but no further payments since, leaving a deficit of \$2,825,000.
- 30. In sum, as of the date of filing of this Complaint, Plaintiff is still owed \$366,000 plus interest under Agreement No. 1 and \$2,825,000 plus interest under Agreement No. 2, for a total outstanding balance of \$3,191,000 plus interest.

LPG's Assurances and Nonpayment

- 31. On or around August 3, 2022, Thomas informed Frankian that LPG had stopped remitting the funds to VP needed to pay Plaintiff under the Agreements.
- 32. On or around this time, Russ Squires also informed Frankian that Diab had gone "rogue," and despite LPG continuing to collect revenue from tens of thousands of client accounts, Diab was refusing to remit the funds to VP as required under VP's acquisition of the Marketing Affiliates' rights to receive a portion of the fees paid to LPG. Squires specifically told Frankian that Diab had personal and executive control over the revenue received by LPG and Diab had unilaterally cut off any and all payments due to VP. Squires told Frankian, and Thomas confirmed, that Diab "ran" LPG, including controlling LPG's trust and bank accounts, despite having been disbarred in California and Nevada for misappropriating client funds and

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COMPLAINT	

associated ethical violations.

- 33. Throughout August 2022, Frankian and Thomas continued to communicate regarding LPG's failure to pay VP and LPG's cause of VP's default under the Agreements between VP and Plaintiff. Thomas promised that LPG would soon resume making payments directly to Plaintiff, even requesting Plaintiff's wire transfer information to facilitate such payments. But after more time passed and Plaintiff had still not received any further payments under either Agreement, Thomas told Frankian that "Tony [Diab] was supposed to send it [the money]," and "I can't control Tony."
- 34. Frankian also interacted directly with Diab on behalf of Plaintiff between August and October 2022. On or about August 22, 2022, Diab promised Frankian that LPG would "probably send [Plaintiff] \$50,000 every couple of days" and again requested that Frankian send the wire transfer instructions to Thomas so Diab could pay Plaintiff directly for the outstanding amounts under Agreement Nos. 1 and 2. Plaintiff never received any payments as Diab promised. In truth, Diab was misleading Plaintiff. Diab had no intention to pay Plaintiff, VP, or its investors. Instead, Diab had decided to keep the revenue due to VP and Plaintiff for his own personal benefit, to fund his other ventures, and make payments to his friends and business associates.
- 35. On information and belief, LPG, under Diab's direction, is intentionally and maliciously withholding money due and owing to VP and Plaintiff. On information and belief, LPG continues to receive a substantial stream of revenue in the form of fees from tens of thousands of client accounts. A substantial portion of this revenue was assigned to VP and comprises the source of funds upon which VP depends to pay its investors, including Plaintiff, as Defendants know.
- 36. On information and belief, Diab is in the process of misappropriating and diverting the funds LPG owes to VP and Plaintiff for his own personal use and to shield them from LPG's creditors, including using the funds to directly purchase

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37. As a consequence of LPG's refusal to pay VP and Diab's unlawful diversion of the funds it owes to VP and Plaintiff, VP cannot pay Plaintiff and is therefore in breach of its obligations to Plaintiff under the Agreements.

Tony Diab's Role at LPG

- 38. Tony Diab was once a licensed attorney in the states of California and Nevada. Diab was disbarred from the practice of law in Nevada on January 14, 2019 for ethics violations relating to stealing large sums of client funds. Diab was disbarred from the practice of law in California on January 10, 2020 for several ethics violations, including for fraudulently diversion of a client's \$375,000 settlement payment into his own personal banking account and forging the signatures of a judge in 2016. Since then, Diab has not been licensed to practice law in Nevada, California, or in any state in the United States.
- 39. On information and belief, Diab practiced law at his firm, Diab Law in Newport Beach, California prior to and leading up to his disbarment. On information and belief, Diab's debt resolution practice commenced at Diab Law. Upon information and belief, Diab founded the LPG law firm in California one month after his disbarment in Nevada. Diab then transferred his debt resolution practice to LPG.
- 40. On information and belief, at LPG's inception, the President and Secretary of LPG were listed as John Thompson and Rosa Bianca Loli, respectively. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that neither Thompson nor Loli were ever attorneys licensed to practice law in California or any other U.S. state.
- 41. At some point after LPG's inception, attorney Daniel S. March assumed the roles of President and Secretary of LPG. March is licensed to practice law in California, but his attorney profile on the California State Bar website shows

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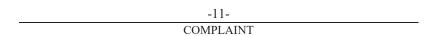
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- 42. Although March appears to be the only licensed attorney employed at LPG, on information and belief, he does not exercise or retain control over the law firm, its client trust accounts, its finances, or any business decisions of LPG, including its means of practicing law and all other aspects of the firm's business operations.
- 43. On information and belief, March is merely a figurehead used by LPG to conceal the fact that a disbarred attorney—Diab—exercises complete and exclusive control over the firm's finances, IOLTA client trust account, operations, and practice of law. On information and belief, March has permitted Diab to use his name and bar license as Diab deems fit, including signing March's signature on contracts on behalf of LPG, communicating with third parties—including Plaintiff—on LPG's behalf, and making financial decisions regarding client funds. To hide his unlawful practice of law, Diab communicates with third parties and acts on LPG's behalf under the label "Admin" and using the email address "admin@lpglaw.com." For example, the primary DocuSign signatory used by LPG to execute contracts goes to "admin@lpglaw.com," an e-mail account used and controlled by Diab, through which Diab signs contracts as March.
- 44. On information and belief, Diab runs a substantial portion of the business operations and the practice of law through various intermediaries in the firm. The vast majority of LPG's debt resolution work occurs without litigation, i.e., very few of LPG's clients actually end up in court. This pre-litigation debt resolution work is almost entirely done in California by a large team of unlicensed staff. On information



and belief, neither Diab nor LPG's staff is supervised, managed, controlled, or directed by a licensed attorney, and is instead supervised, managed, controlled, and directed by Diab. March has abdicated all responsibility for managing LPG and effectively exercises none of the traditional functions a managing partner exercises over a law firm.

45. On information and belief, Diab treated himself as a 1099 attorney for a portion of the time after his disbarment, issuing direct payments to himself from July of 2019 through March of 2020 for "Client attorney fees" in a total amount of at least \$445,000.

Tony Diab's Control and Diversion of LPG's Funds

- 46. On information and belief, since June 2022, the LPG Defendants intentionally have diverted revenue owned to Plaintiff and VP, with the knowledge and intention of forcing VP to default on its obligation to pay Plaintiff under the Agreements.
- 47. On information and belief, Diab himself is in complete control over the finances of LPG, including LPG's bank accounts and IOLTA client trust account. These accounts receive and hold the client fee revenue assigned to VP by way of its factoring of the Marketing Affiliates' accounts receivable.
- 48. Diab has repeatedly and continuously mispresented the status of LPG's finances to Plaintiff and VP to promote the falsehood that LPG lacks the funds to pay the amounts Plaintiff is owed under the Agreements. In truth, LPG continues to receive substantial revenue from the client fees to which Plaintiff and VP have acquired the rights. Diab has intentionally and unlawfully diverted those funds to business associates and third-party entities he controls. For example, on information and belief, between July and October 2022, Diab personally authorized LPG to pay more than \$1,000,000 to marketing/lead generation firms, at least one of which Diab partially owns, which is inconsistent with LPG's business model of obtaining client accounts through its Marketing Affiliates in exchange for assignments of a share of

-12-
COMPLAINT

fees generated by such accounts.

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- 49. In addition, on information and belief, the LPG Defendants have spent large sums on buying assets for LPG rather than paying monies owed to VP and its investors. Specifically, LPG spent over \$6 million to directly purchase new client accounts between July and October 2022.
- 50. On information and belief, Diab also appears to be rapidly transferring LPG's fee-generating client accounts—many of which had already been assigned to VP—to a third-party entity called Teracel. On information and belief, LPG did not receive any money in exchange for these accounts.
- 51. Diab is thus on course to drain LPG of its assets. If Diab's looting scheme is permitted to continue, LPG will become unable to repay VP and Plaintiff, while Diab continues LPG's debt resolution practice through another entity that has no obligations to VP or Plaintiff.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Breach of Contract – Agreement No. 1

(Against VP)

- 52. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 53. Plaintiff and VP entered into Agreement No. 1 on or about October 4, 2021 (attached hereto as **Exhibit A**). According to the written contract, Plaintiff agreed to pay VP \$2,000,000 and VP agreed to repay this sum plus 20 percent interest for a total of \$2,400,000 over twelve monthly payments.
- 54. Plaintiff paid VP the \$2,000,000 required under Agreement No. 1 by wire transfer on or about October 4, 2021.
- 55. VP made payments to Plaintiff through June 2022 for a total of \$2,034,000, but breached Agreement No. 1 by failing to pay the remaining \$366,000. As VP's CEO, Russ Squires, has represented, VP is unable to pay Plaintiff because the funds for repayment of VP's investors consist of fees for client services that LPG

-13-COMPLAINT

is obligated to pay to VP, which LPG refuses to do. VP has thus repudiated and anticipatorily breached Agreement No. 1 by announcing its inability to perform under 3 that agreement. 4 56. As a consequence of VP's breach of Agreement No. 1, Plaintiff has been 5 damaged in the amount of \$366,000 plus interest. 6 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION** 7 **Breach of Contract – Agreement No. 2** 8 (Against VP) 9 57. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all 10 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint. 11 58. Plaintiff and VP entered into Agreement No. 2 on or about March 9, 2022 (attached hereto as **Exhibit B**). According to the written contract, Plaintiff agreed to 13 pay VP \$2,500,000 and VP agreed to repay this sum plus 25 percent interest for a 14 total of \$3,125,000 over twelve monthly payments following a three-month deferral 15 of VP's repayment obligation. 16 59. Plaintiff paid VP the \$2,500,000 required under Agreement No. 2 by 17 wire transfer on or about March 11, 2022. 18 60. VP made a single payment of \$300,000 to Plaintiff in June 2022, but has 19 failed to pay Plaintiff the remaining \$2,825,000 it owes under Agreement No. 2. As 20 Squires has represented, VP is unable to pay Plaintiff because the funds for repayment 21 of VP's investors consist of fees for client services that LPG is obligated to pay to 22 VP, which LPG refuses to do. VP has thus repudiated and anticipatorily breached 23 Agreement No. 2 by announcing its inability to perform under that agreement. 24 61. As a consequence of VP's breach of Agreement No. 2, Plaintiff has been damaged in the amount of \$2,825,000 plus interest. 26 27 28 -14-COMPLAINT

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1 THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION 2 **Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations** 3 (Against LPG Defendants) 4 62. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all 5 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint. 6 As alleged herein, Plaintiff has and had valid existing contracts with 7 VP—namely, Agreement No. 1 and Agreement No. 2—and substantially performed 8 its obligations thereunder. 9 LPG Defendants, as part of their business relationship with VP and 64. 10 investors like Plaintiff, knew about the contracts between VP and Plaintiff. 11 LPG Defendants, with the intent of disrupting and/or destroying the 12 contracts between Plaintiff and VP, engaged in the conduct described herein, including but not limited to: (a) ceasing payments to VP despite having the funds to 13 14 make timely payments; (b) misrepresenting LPG's inability to make payments to VP 15 in order for VP to perform on the contracts with Plaintiff; (c) diverting the revenue 16 owed to VP and Plaintiff away from LPG and into Diab's personal and/or 17 unauthorized endeavors; and (d) transferring funds and fee-generating accounts out 18 of LPG to shield them from LPG's creditors. 19 66. LPG Defendants' conduct was willful and in bad faith and intended to 20 disrupt the performance of VP's obligations under the Agreements to prevent Plaintiff 21 from recovering the monies it is owed so that LPG and Diab could keep the revenue 22 for their own personal benefit. 23 As a result of this conduct, Plaintiff has been and will continue to be damaged. The full amount of Plaintiff's damages is presently unknown but is at least \$3,191,000. Plaintiff is entitled to recover such sums, together with interest thereon at the maximum legal rate according to proof. 27 /// 28 ///

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68. LPG Defendants, in engaging in the above-described conduct, are guilty of oppression, fraud and/or malice, and were acting with willful and conscious disregard of the rights of Plaintiff. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages against LPG Defendants in an amount appropriate to properly punish those defendants for their conduct and to deter similar future conduct.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Intentional Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage) (Against LPG Defendants)

- 69. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- Plaintiff has current and prospective economic interests with its current business partner VP through the Agreements executed between Plaintiff and VP between October 2021 and March 2022.
- LPG Defendants knew of this existing and prospective economic 71. relationship and of the future economic benefit and advantage to Plaintiff from this relationship.
- 72. LPG Defendants conspired to and intentionally engaged in unlawful conduct designed to interfere with and disrupt Plaintiff's business relationships and prospective economic advantage with its business partner VP, as alleged in this Complaint. Such conduct includes, among other things: (a) diverting funds generated by Plaintiff's accounts receivable away from VP to prevent VP from performing on the contracts between Plaintiff and VP; (b) deceiving Plaintiff and VP about LPG's financial status and the revenue generated by the accounts receivable owned by Plaintiff and VP; (c) intentionally diverting revenue LPG owes to VP and Plaintiff; and (d) transferring funds and fee-generating accounts out of LPG to shield them from LPG's creditors.
- 73. As a direct and proximate result of LPG Defendants' unlawful conduct, LPG Defendants interfered with and disrupted Plaintiff's relationship with its existing

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COMPLAINT

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business partner, VP, and Plaintiff lost the full economic benefit and advantage
 reasonably expected from the relationship.

- 74. As a further direct and proximate result of LPG Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff has been and will continue to be damaged. The full amount of Plaintiff's damages is presently unknown but is at least \$3,191,000. Plaintiff is entitled to recover such sums, together with interest thereon at the maximum legal rate according to proof.
- 75. LPG Defendants' acts and omissions were intentional, malicious and oppressive, and they were done with the intent and design to damage Plaintiff. Plaintiff is entitled, therefore, to recover punitive damages, in an amount to be determined at the time of trial.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

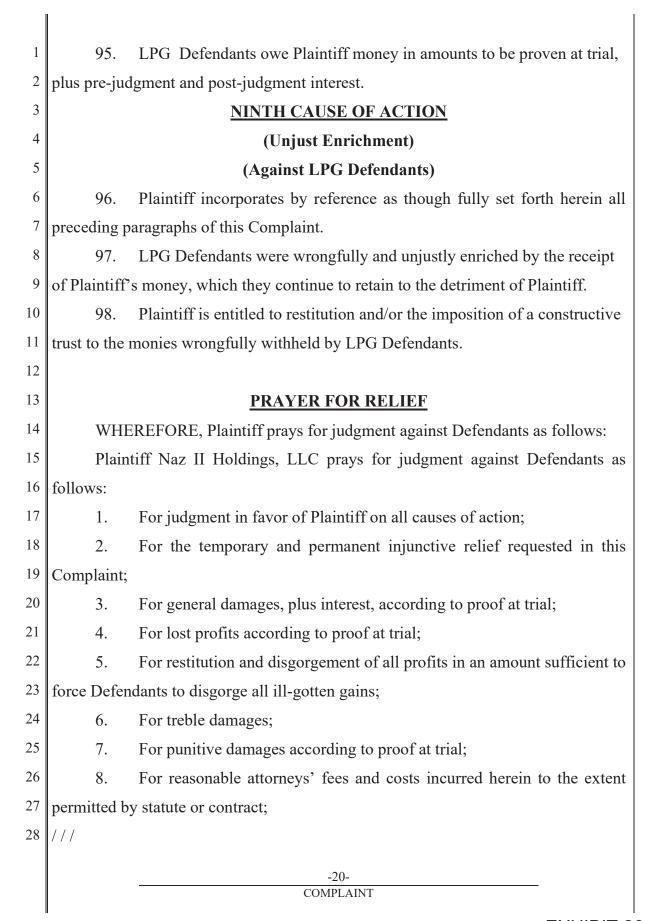
(Unfair Competition in Violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200, et seq.)

(Against LPG Defendants)

- 76. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all preceding paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 77. As alleged in this Complaint, LPG Defendants have engaged in a variety of conduct directed toward Plaintiff that constitutes unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business practices in violation of California Business and Professions Code section 17200, including without limitation: (a) fraudulent transfer of funds owed to Plaintiff and VP in an effort to prevent Plaintiff and VP from collecting the money owed to them and to establish a new debt resolution practice based on LPG's assets, including the right to collect fees in connection with client accounts that have been assigned in whole or in part to Marketing Affiliates and/or VP, but lacking LPG's liabilities; (b) engaging in the unauthorized practice of law; (c) unlawfully using Plaintiff's assets for LPG Defendants' benefit; and (d) interfering in Plaintiff's contractual relations and prospective economic advantage.

-17-COMPLAINT

1 84. LPG Defendants have acted with malice, fraud and oppression, and an award of punitive damages in a sum according to proof at trial is justified, warranted 3 and appropriate. 4 SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION 5 (Money Had and Received) 6 (Against LPG Defendants) 7 85. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all 8 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint. 9 Defendants received money that was intended to be used for the benefit 86. 10 of Plaintiff. 11 87. That money was not in fact used for the benefit of Plaintiff. 12 88. Defendants have not given the money to Plaintiff. 13 89. LPG owes Plaintiff money in amounts to be proven at trial, plus pre-14 judgment and post-judgment interest. 15 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION** 16 (Accounts Stated) 17 (Against LPG Defendants) 18 90. Plaintiff incorporates by reference as though fully set forth herein all 19 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint. 20 91. LPG Defendants owed Plaintiff money from previous financial 21 transactions. 22 92. Plaintiff and LPG Defendants, by words and/or conduct, agreed that the 23 amounts that Plaintiff claimed to be due from LPG was the correct amount owed. 24 93. LPG Defendants, by words and/or conduct, promised to pay the stated amounts to Plaintiff. 26 94. LPG Defendants have not paid Plaintiff all of the amounts owed under 27 these accounts. 28 -19-COMPLAINT



1	9.	For prejudgment interest; and
2	10.	For such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.
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4	Dated: Janu	uary 6, 2023 OSTERGAR LATTIN JULANDER LLP
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6		By: Treg Julander =
7		Treg A. Julander
8		Treg A. Julander Attorney for Plaintiff NAZ II HOLDING, LLC
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EXHIBIT 27





Jane Dearwester jane@lpglaw.com

March 10, 2023

Daniel S. March The Litigation Practice Group, PC 17542 E. 17th St., Ste. 100 Tustin, CA 92780

RE: Resignation

Dear Mr. March.

It is with great disappointment that I tender my resignation as the managing attorney of the North Carolina and Kentucky offices of The Litigation Practice Group, PC. Due to LPG's various breaches of the terms of my employment contract this notice is effective immediately.

Please immediately cease and desist using my signature on new enrollment agreements and remove my photograph and contact information from the law firm website.

I am drafting letters to send to all North Carolina and Kentucky clients per the respective State Bar rules regarding their choice of legal representation moving forward.

Sincerely.

Jane Dearwester

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EXHIBIT 28

Jane Dearwester

From: Admin

Sent:Tuesday, December 20, 2022 4:27 PMTo:Jane Dearwester; Jayde TrinhSubject:Re: IMPT: Urgent action for LPG

Please ignore, this is a disgruntled former vendor, we will handle.

Thanks!

The Litigation Practice Group PC 17542 E. 17th St., Ste 100 Tustin, CA 92780 p: 949.715.0644 f: 949.315.4332 www.lpglaw.com



NOTICE: This email message (including any attachments) may contain material that is confidential and/or legally privileged. Unless you are the intended recipient or are authorized to receive information for the intended recipient, you may not use, copy, or disclose any part of this message. If you have received this message in error, please notify us and delete all copies of it. Thank you

From: Jane Dearwester < jane@lpglaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2022 11:28 AM

To: Admin <admin@lpglaw.com>; Jayde Trinh <Jayde@lpglaw.com>

Subject: FW: IMPT: Urgent action for LPG

Did y'all also get this email? WTF????

From: Derek Gallimore <derek@outsourceaccelerator.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2022 4:59 AM

Subject: IMPT: Urgent action for LPG

Hi,

This is a highly important and urgent matter.

LPG owes \$247,591.48 to 138 staff working for LPG. This has been overdue since 21 November 2022.

LPG falsified JP Morgan docs confirming payment had been made on 2 Dec. See attached PDF here.

LPG is <u>currently facing 11 lawsuits</u>. We are contacting all parties involved and sharing this information. Equally, LPG faces a barrage of consumer complaints, from BBB, and many others.

Daniel S March, the stated CEO, and CFO has previously been <u>suspended from practicing law</u> for previous improper practice. Daniel S March and Wesley Thomas, are leaders of LPG, and are involved in the financial decisions of the company.

The staff work via Outsource Accelerator, an outsourcing staff supplier based in the Philippines (HQ in Hong Kong). The staff were given no notice of termination by LPG. They were performing well. This happened ten days before Christmas. Outsource Accelerator is left picking up the pieces.

See the growing dossier:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s0ckF4Ty9NwvPb7d9zfbdiEGjfe6PUwJ-hP0kt8uRBM/edit?usp=sharing

Full payment required now:

Pay this final invoice - \$247,591.48 by 29 Dec. This will not cease until payment is made.

--

Regards,

Derek Gallimore









[About Outsource Accelerator] [About Derek] [How we help]

--

Regards,

Derek Gallimore



Web: www.outsourceaccelerator.com

Phils: +63 (0) 956 891 6280 UK: +44 (0) 778 971 1197 Linked In: Derek Gallimore







[About Outsource Accelerator] [About Derek] [How we help]

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EXHIBIT 29

Jane Dearwester

From: Jane Dearwester

Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 1:12 PM

To: Accounting

Subject: RE: Corporate Card Declining

Got it - thanks!

From: Accounting <accounting@lpglaw.com> **Sent:** Friday, December 9, 2022 6:06 PM

To: Firas Abunada <firas@lpglaw.com>; Matt Buchner <IT@lpglaw.com>; Kent Cobb <kent@lpglaw.com>; Jane Dearwester <jane@lpglaw.com>; Collin Donner <CDonner@lpglaw.com>; Amy Ginsburg <aginsburg@lpglaw.com>; Kyle Herret <kyle@lpglaw.com>; Vincent Jackson <vincent@lpglaw.com>; Laronda Kelley <laronda@lpglaw.com>; Bianca Loli <Bianca@lpglaw.com>; Dan March <Dan@lpglaw.com>; Richard Meier <richard@lpglaw.com>; Tye Merritt <TyeM@lpglaw.com>; Branden Nakahara <Branden@lpglaw.com>; Justin Nguyen <JNguyen@lpglaw.com>; Israel Orozco <israel@lpglaw.com>; R. Reed Pruyn <Reed@lpglaw.com>; Peter Schneider <peter@lpglaw.com>; Haley Simmoneau <HSimmoneau@lpglaw.com>; Han Trinh <han@lpglaw.com>; Jayde Trinh <Jayde@lpglaw.com>; Kamaria Womack <KWomack@lpglaw.com>; Reid Wood <reid@lpglaw.com>

Cc: Kevin Kurka < KKurka@lpglaw.com> **Subject:** Corporate Card Declining

Hi Team,

While we have a VERY LARGE credit line on our credit card, there are times when the usage reaches our credit limit with over 40 cardholders.

In these cases, we usually wire funds out in between our cycles, which are every 2 weeks.

When we send the wire, they can make it immediately available but sometimes they don't post immediately.

This is the case today, and you may see your cards get declined. The wire should hit later today or Monday.

If at all possible, hold off until the first of the week on things that can wait. Either way, they will decline until the payment cycles through JP Morgan.

If you ever have any questions on this and your card does not work going forward, please email me or call me directly. I usually can provide more information as to what is going on than the number on the back of the card.

949-292-7493 Denina@Lpglaw.com

Thank you Denina Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 176 of 195

Accounting and Finance

The Litigation Practice Group PC

P.O. Box 513018

Los Angeles, CA 90051

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EXHIBIT 30

Jane Dearwester

From: j.rebhun@consumerlegalgroup.com
Sent: J.rebhun@consumerlegalgroup.com
Monday, March 6, 2023 9:34 AM

To: Jane Dearwester
Cc: 'Tal Hirshberg'

Subject: New matter for us (CLG) - LPG style credit consumer matter

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hi,

We (Consumer Legal Group) work with Litigation Practice Group (LPG) on files like LPG had where local counsel is needed to defend clients on suits. We're in the process of growing our "inventory" and taking on new files and as one of the main attorneys here at CLG, I'm tasked with engaging local counsel to have someone "up and running" should a new file come in that warrants immediate attention.

We understand that you've worked with LPG as local counsel on similar matters before and we'd like to engage you to be local counsel on TN cases. Right now, we have one "brewing" that might need representation if we cannot settle it and I wanted to have you (given your familiarity with LPG style cases and work) on standby for this case and for others that we're taking on.

Please let us know if this is something you can take on and work with us as local counsel. We can arrange a call or a remote meeting if that works for you.

Thanking you in advance for your attention,

Jason

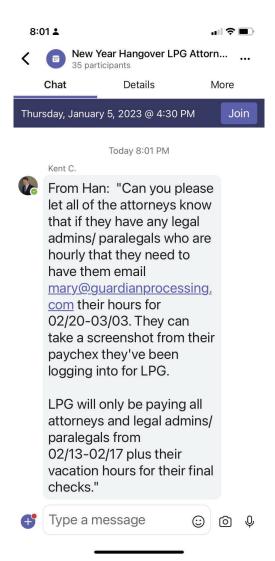
Jason J. Rebhun, l

Jason J. Rebhun, Esq.
CONSUMER LEGAL GROUP PC
212.920.1247

Website consumerlegalgroup.com

Email j.rebhun@consumerlegalgroup.com Address PO Box 412 Elmsford, NY 10523 Case 8:23-bk-10571-SC Doc 1105 Filed 04/11/24 Entered 04/11/24 23:12:29 Desc Main Document Page 179 of 195

EXHIBIT 31



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EXHIBIT 32

Jane Dearwester

Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2023 2:40 PM

To: Jane Dearwester

Subject: Fwd: Oakstone Law Center - Notice of Transition

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Here is a forwarded email I got again today. Just FYI. Hope you have a great rest of your week!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Oakstone Support <support@oakstonepc.co>

Date: May 11, 2023 at 2:37:39 PM EDT

To: brich11111@yahoo.com

Subject: Oakstone Law Center - Notice of Transition

Dear James B-

Oakstone Law Group PC is no longer able to service your account in a manner that aligns with our standards for client success. Accordingly, we have made the decision to place your file with Phoenix Law PC in order to ensure that your file receives the attention it needs. This difficult decision was made with the best interest of you, our client, in mind. Phoenix Law will reach out to you in order to facilitate this transfer. If you have an active summons with Oakstone Law Group and an attorney is already representing you, please remain in communication with them as they will continue to represent you until the conclusion of your case. Any documentation pertaining to your active lawsuit should be sent to support@Oakstonepc.co until your case concludes. In order to reach Phoenix Law, please call 424-622-4044. In order to contact Oakstone please use the email address support@Oakstonepc.co

Regards,

Scott Eadie

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EXHIBIT 33



Israel Orozco March 21, 2023

Dear Mr. Orozco,

Congratulations! It is with great pleasure that Greyson Law Center PC would like to offer full-time employment to you for the position of Associate Attorney. The terms and conditions of employment are outlined below. The Firm reserves the right to alter or rescind this offer at any time during the employment process. The following outlines the details of this offer.

1. Start Date

March 27, 2023

2. Compensation

You will be classified as an exempt employee with an annual salary of \$164,000.00 per year paid in accordance with Firm payroll practices. Employee agrees to maintain a license in good standing in California and New York.

The Employee agrees to represent all clients of Greyson Law Center assigned to Employee who have active matters located in any jurisdiction in which Employee is admitted to practice law. The Employee may employ the assistance of appearance or coverage counsel at Employee's discretion to manage Employee's docket of cases, and Greyson Law Center agrees to cover such cost on behalf of Employee.

The Employee will be provided office space convenient to their current residence. All bar dues and malpractice insurance will be covered by Greyson Law Center. The Employee may also retain a legal administrative assistant or paralegal to assist in the management of Employee's docket of cases.

Annual Salary Increase. The Employee shall be eligible for salary increases annually of zero to three percent (0-3%). Such salary increase shall be based upon the overall performance of the Employee during the preceding twelve (12)-month period.

3. Benefits

a) Enrollment. Should you choose to enroll, the benefits will be effective the first day of the month following your hire date. Greyson Law Center offers a competitive benefit plan which includes the following:



- Paid Time Off: You will be eligible to accrue three (3) weeks of Vacation and forty (40)
 hours of Sick Time per year. You will need to inform Human Resources prior to your
 Vacation.
- II. Medical, Dental, and Vision Plan
- III. 401(k) Plan and company-match (if eligibility requirements are met)
- IV. Paid Holidays

4. Duties

- a) Attorney-Employees are required to represent clients of Greyson Law Center in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct governing the jurisdiction in which such legal representation is rendered.
- **b)** The Employee is not required to maintain records of hours except as required by any applicable rule of professional conduct.
- c) If any ethical conflict arises, Employee may decline a case assignment, but must promptly notify Greyson Law Center of such denial and must assist Greyson Law Center in good faith to find representation for such client.
- d) If Employee requires any support material to provide legal services in accordance with the applicable rules of professional conduct, Employee shall promptly notify Greyson Law Center of the same and Greyson Law Center agrees to comply with such requests in good faith and with the exercise of reasonable diligence.
- e) The Employee agrees to permit Greyson Law Center to publish Employee's profile to its website, mobile application, and on any firm letterhead or correspondence.
- f) The Employee agrees to complete all required continuing legal education coursework and to comply with ethical standards expected of any officer of the court.
- g) The Employee agrees to serve as counsel for the Firm and its clients for all purposes in the jurisdiction(s) in which Employee is licensed.
- **h)** The Employee agrees to use Greyson Law Center's customer relations management software.
- i) The Employee agrees to use their name and information on correspondence directed to Greyson Law Center's clients in the state(s) in which the attorney is licensed.

5. Outside Activities

a) **General.** During the term of this Agreement you may not, without the prior written consent of the Firm, directly or indirectly as principal, agent, shareholder, partner, employee or otherwise engage in or be interested in any other business which will require your attendance or attention during the Firm's business hours or which is or may be contrary to the interest of, or in competition with, the Firm or which may require the use of confidential information of the Firm.





6. Confidentiality

- a) General Confidentiality. You shall not disclose or use either during or after your employment with the Firm any secret or confidential information, or information which in good faith and good conscience ought to be treated as confidential relating to the Firm, its employees, or its customers without the prior written consent of the Firm.
- b) Confidential information. Confidential information includes, but is not limited to, customer lists, supplier lists and lists of employees and contractors and information about the Firm's finances, business plans, proposals, technologies, and developments.
- c) Absenteeism and Illness. Punctual attendance is necessary. It is the responsibility of the Employee to inform Greyson Law Center prior to your start of any absenteeism and illness. The Firm has the right to require you to supply proof of illness and fitness to return to work in the form of a doctor's certificate or other form satisfactory to the Firm.

7. At-Will Statement

- a) General At-Will. This letter constitutes the full commitments that have been extended to you. However, Greyson Law Center does not guarantee employment for a specified length
- b) Mutual Consent. Employment is at the mutual consent of each employee and Greyson Law
- c) Right to Terminate. Accordingly, both parties retain the right to terminate the employment relationship at-will with or without cause.
- d) Identification Documents and Other Paperwork. Upon employment, you will be asked to provide identification documents in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Reform Act of 1986 and complete the I-9 form within three days of employment. You will also be given additional paperwork necessary to complete your file.

If the terms and conditions stated above are acceptable to you, please indicate by signing below and returning to me via email. Please respond within two business days of the date on this correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact me at admin@greysonpc.com.

We look forward to a favorable reply! Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Scott J. Eadie

Managing Attorney

Scott, J Eadie



I accept the above offer to be employed by Greyson Law Center PC and understand the terms and conditions set forth in this letter.

Israel Orozco	
Print: First name and last name	
	03/24/2023
Signature	Date

440 N. Barranca Ave. #1331, Covina, CA 91723 • greysonpc.com

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EXHIBIT 34

From: Mark J. Markus Law Office <mark@bklaw.com>

Date: Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 9:50 AM

To: Alina Mamlyuk <amamlyuk@marshackhays.com>

Cc: Ed Hays <EHays@MarshackHays.com>, Layla Buchanan <LBuchanan@marshackhays.com>

Subject: Re: LPG Dk. No. 697; Administrative Claim filed by David Orr, Esq.

Hi Alina,

We have reviewed Greyson's claim and clarified some things with them, so I can now clarify my previously confusing statements to you.

David Orr (my client) is in fact the "Florida attorney" referenced in Greyson's Motion. However, Mr. Orr's employment with Greyson was terminated and he did not do any work for Greyson on LPG cases after the lockout, which my understanding is was between June 2, 2023 and August 4, 2023. He recalls being rehired to work on a couple of other NON-LPG Greyson cases in late June or July 2023 when it appeared Greyson might continue as an ongoing practice, but those were very brief and he was not otherwise employed by Greyson during that period, and definitely not on any of the LPG cases.

My client is only seeking payment for services he provided to the Florida LPG clients from June 2 until August 4, after his employment was terminated by Greyson. Greyson's Motion seeks payment for services provided to those LPG clients PRIOR to June 2 (the pre-lockout period). They do not overlap.

I hope this sufficiently clarifies everything for you.

Let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,

Mark

PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is: 870 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620.

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled: OPPOSITION OF CHAPTER 11 TRUSTEE TO MOTION OF GREYSON LAW CENTER PC FOR RECOVERY OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE [Dk. No. 676]; DECLARATIONS OF D. EDWARD HAYS, ALINA MAMLYUK AND SHADAE CLARKE, AND JANE DEARWESTER IN SUPPORT THEREOF will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below:

	JPPORT THEREOF will be served BR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manne	or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and er stated below:
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F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/or co delivery, overnight ma and/or email as follow	ontrolling LBR, on <u>April 11, 2024, lil</u> service, or (for those who conser	MAIL, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL: Pursuant to served the following persons and/or entities by personal need in writing to such service method), by facsimile transmission is a declaration that personal delivery on, or overnight mail to, the locument is filed.
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I declare under penalt	y of perjury under the laws of the L	Inited States that the foregoing is true and correct.
April 11, 2024	Lavla Buchanan	/s/ Lavla Buchanan

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Printed Name

Signature

Date

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